

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
MEETING – November 4, 2024**

Mayor Mueller *calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

**PRESENT:** Mayor A. Mueller, Mr. J. Albanese, Mr. J. Heller, and Mr. J. Huelsebusch  
Deputy Mayor Panico left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Administrator R. Sheola, Municipal Clerk K. Parker, Attorney C. Corsini

**ABSENT:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Clerk read the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.*, the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist and desires to authorize the exclusion of the public from the portion of the meeting in accordance with the act;

**NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter as set forth in the following Exhibit “A.”

**EXHIBIT A**

<b><u>Subject Matter</u></b>	<b><u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u></b>	<b><u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u></b>
Administration .....	Personnel .....	Certain information at the discretion of Twp tonight shall remain confidential
Local Union No. 469 .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Shared Services (Municipal Court) .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “
Block 93, Lot 2 (Torsilieri) .....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “
Executive Session Minutes .....	Attorney-Client Privilege.....	“ “ “
• October 21, 2024		
Affordable Housing.....	Potential Litigation.....	“ “ “

It is anticipated at this time that the stated subject matter will be made public on or about the time set forth in Exhibit “A.”

2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Heller to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Mueller led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to amend the executive session agenda to add *Personnel / Personnel Policy and Contract Negotiations / Police*, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

**Executive Session:**

**Personnel / Administration**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-185**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING CONFIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - RUSSO**

**WHEREAS**, there is a vacancy for a confidential administrative assistant position; and

**WHEREAS**, the position has been advertised and posted the vacancy internally; and

**WHEREAS**, there were a number of applications and after interviews with the Township Administrator and Township Clerk, it is the recommendation to hire Sherri Russo as a confidential administrative assistant in accordance with the offer letter of October 22, 2024;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Readington Township to hire Sherri Russo as a confidential administrative assistant contingent upon successful completion of the requisite pre-employment physical.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

**Contract Negotiations / Local Union No. 469**

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

**Contract Negotiations / Shared Services (Municipal Court)**

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

**Contract Negotiations / Block 93, Lot 2 (Torsilieri)**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

**#R-2024-183**

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington (hereinafter the "Township") seeks to acquire certain real property known as Block 93, Lot 2 in the Township of Readington which is commonly known as 416 Main Street in Three Bridges, Township of Readington, (hereinafter the "Property"), and is owned by Torsilieri Real Estate Holdings Corp. (hereinafter referred to as "Torsilieri"); and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that the funding for this purchase shall come from a joint acquisition and funding agreement with grants/funding to be provided by certain non-profit conservation entities, the County of Hunterdon, the NJ Green Acres program, and the Township of Readington Open Space Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the purchase is subject to and in accordance with the conditions set forth in the Letter of Intent with Torsilieri appended hereto as Schedule A (on file in Clerk's Office), and any agreed-upon amendments thereto, for the negotiated price of \$485,000.00, and is further contingent upon the execution of a contract between the Township and Torsilieri, consent and approval of all participating funding entities, the successful completion of a funding agreement among the Township and the anticipated funding entities, and, if necessary, the assignment of this Agreement of Sale to one or more of those entities, in order to acquire the Property and provide the costs of closing; and

**WHEREAS**, a major portion of the funding for the purchase is anticipated through the State of New Jersey Green Acres program and the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund which may require a Cooperative Purchase Agreement be executed between the anticipated funding entities; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. For the reasons set forth above, Township Committee hereby expresses its intent to acquire the real property known as Block 93, Lot 2 consistent with the conditions and stipulations of this resolution and authorizes the execution of the Letter of Intent attached hereto as Schedule A.
2. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Administrator, Clerk of the Township and Township Attorney are all hereby authorized and directed to take all reasonable, necessary, and lawful steps including execution of any and all necessary documents referenced in this resolution.
3. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

**Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / October 21, 2024**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to approve the Executive Session Minutes of October 21, 2024 for content only, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

**Potential Litigation / Affordable Housing**

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

**Personnel / Personnel Policy**

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

**Contract Negotiations / Police**

Mayor Mueller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Mueller read the following statement:

*All items listed with an asterisk “\*” are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.*

Mr. Heller requested to remove *Item #2* from the Consent Agenda.

1. \* **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of October 21, 2024
2. \* **2024 Best Practices Inventory**
4. \***Payment of Bills** – (Complete bill list is on file in Clerk’s Office)

<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund No.</u>	<u>Received Total</u>
GENERAL	4-01	\$ 10,768,020.92
SEWER UTILITY OP FUND	4-02	\$ 182,000.87
GENERAL	G-01	\$ 21,931.65
OTHER TRUST	X-03	\$ 62,261.13
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 267,122.08
2021 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-21	\$ 9,522.72
2023 CAP IMPROVEMENTS	X-23	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 11,311,859.37</b>

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to approve the Consent Agenda (*with the removal of item #2*), seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

- Mr. Albanese -Aye
- Mr. Heller - Aye
- Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye
- Mayor Mueller - Aye

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** for items listed on the agenda only

There were none.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

As it was after 7:45 p.m., **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to adjourn the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43-108 ET SEQ. TO PROVIDE FOR RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR POLICE OFFICERS WORKING SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE #31-2024**

Mayor Mueller asked if there were any comments from the governing body

There were none.

Mayor Mueller asked if there were any comments from the public.

There were no comments.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to close the Public Hearing and open the regular meeting, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Clerk read by Title:

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43-108 ET SEQ. TO PROVIDE FOR RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR POLICE OFFICERS WORKING SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE #31-2024**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to adopt this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

**CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION**

1. Letter dated October 25, 2024 from Courtney Schultz, Saul Ewing LLP, in ***the Matter of Aqua New Jersey, Inc. filing a Petition for Approval of an Increase in Rates for Wastewater Service and True-Up for 2023 Wastewater Rates.*** No action taken.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. ***Recreation Field Use / Schedules*** – update

Administrator Sheola shared an update on his recent meeting with the Director of Recreation, Director of Public Works, and Public Safety Director. Administrator Sheola indicated that the focus of the meeting was to address the parking issues stemming from overcapacity at Summer Road and Hillcrest Parks and discussions centered around potential solutions to improve parking management and alleviate the congestion affecting these areas.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. ***Request for Additional Sewer Allocation /Block 81, Lot 1 (Apartments at Three Bridges, LLC)***

Attorney Amanda Curley spoke on behalf of the applicant, addressing a request from the Readington Township Municipal Utilities Authority (RTMUA) to increase sewer capacity by 360 gallons per day to support the community building.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to accept the recommendation of the Sewer Advisory Committee to add 360 gallons of sewer capacity per day to the Block 81 Lot 1, Apartments at Three Bridges Project for the community building, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Huelsebusch - Nay  
Mayor Mueller - Aye

2. ***Request for Waiver of Moratorium / Ryland Inn (115 Old Highway 28)***

John Mazza, Vice President of Construction for Landmark Developers, attended on behalf of Ryand Inn to request a waiver of the five-year moratorium on Old Highway 28. The waiver would allow them to open the road to install a new sewer line and manhole.

Township Engineer O'Brien proposed adding a condition that they work with the Township's Department of Public Works when obtaining the road opening permit to determine how far the road should be milled and paved.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to approve the waiver of moratorium for Ryand Inn with the conditions as discussed by the Township Engineer, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye  
Mayor Mueller - Aye

3. ***Acceptance of Performance Bond / JW Congregation (Major Site Plan - Block 15, Lot 23)***

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to accept the performance bond for JW Congregation, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese Aye  
Mr. Heller - Aye  
Mr. Huelsebusch - Aye  
Mayor Mueller - Aye

4. ***An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 to the Code of the Township of Readington Concerning Fire Watch***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***AMENDING CHAPTER 21 TO THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON CONCERNING FIRE WATCH***

***ORDINANCE #32-2024***

***WHEREAS***, it is in the best interests of the residents of the Township of Readington to amend the Township Code at this time to require standards for Fire Watch and Special Events; and

***WHEREAS***, the Township wishes through this Ordinance to amend Chapter 21 entitled “Fire Departments” of the Township Code in order to serve the best interests of the Township and its residents.

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED*** by the Committee of the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that:

**Section I**

***Article IV***

***§21-16 Fire watch.***

1. *If the Fire Marshal, Fire Inspector, paid personnel or member of a volunteer fire company is required to inspect, monitor or patrol a building to detect circumstances that might immediately result in a fire while a buildings fire protection system is inoperative, the owner of said building shall reimburse the Township for said fire watch services at the rate of \$100.00 per hour per person.*
2. *Should fire apparatus or additional equipment need to be utilized, the hourly fee for that equipment shall be assessed at a rate designated in the fire equipment reimbursement schedule.*
3. *There shall be a minimum fee of \$100.00, provided that no fee shall be assessed in within thirty (30) minutes of being notified of the commencement of the fire watch services, the building owner or their representative arrives at the building and assumes control of the fire watch from the Fire Marshall, Fire Inspector, paid personnel, or member of the volunteer fire company.*
4. *The cost of providing fire watch services shall be certified by the Fire Marshal to the building owner within 30 days of completion. The building owner shall reimburse the Township within 30 days thereof.*

***§21-17 Special Events***

1. *When determined by the Fire Marshal to be necessary for the purpose of public safety to have a Fire Inspector present during special events, the owner, operator, organizer, sponsor, person, or organization responsible for said event shall pay the cost of said inspector at the rate of \$100.00 per hour for the duration of the event.*

**Section II**

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**Section III**

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

**Ordinance #32-2024 cont'd:**

**Section IV**

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law but, in no event, less than 20 days after its final passage by the Township Committee and approval by the Mayor, where such approval is required.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for November 18, 2024 at 7:45 p.m.*

5. ***An Ordinance Amending Chapter 123 of the Code of the Township of Readington Concerning Fire Equipment Reimbursement***

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***AMENDING CHAPTER 123 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON CONCERNING FIRE EQUIPMENT REIMBURSEMENT***

***ORDINANCE #33-2024***

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the residents of the Township of Readington to amend the Township Code at this time to require standards for Fire Watch and Special Events; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township wishes through this Ordinance to amend Chapter 123 entitled “Fire Prevention” of the Township Code in order to serve the best interests of the Township and its residents.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Committee of the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey that the following sections are being added:

**ARTICLE IV**

**Section I**

**§123-28 Product Release**

**In the event of a product release, requiring emergency stand-by, fire suppression costs as outlined in N.J.A.C. 5:70-2.13 or other emergency incidents the responsible party/parties may receive abatement for services from the Township for the first initial hour at no cost, but shall be subject to reimbursement fees for every hour thereafter. The cost of providing such response or stand-by shall be certified by the Fire Marshall to the responsible party/parties within 30 days of their completion. The responsible party/parties shall reimburse the Township within 30 days thereof**

**§123-29 Fees and Costs**

**Personnel and equipment shall be reimbursed at an hourly rate as calculated by the most recent schedule of equipment rates published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). All expended or damaged equipment shall be reimbursed at their current replacement cost. The cost of such equipment shall be certified by the Fire Marshal to the Township Administrator and Chief financial Officer and the responsible party/parties within 30 days. The responsible party/parties shall reimburse the Township within 30 days thereof.**



**Ordinance #33-2024 cont'd:**

Equipment shall be defined as but not limited to:

1. Uniforms and clothing.
2. Turnout gear and personal protective equipment.
3. Breathing apparatus.
4. Rope, rope equipment and harnesses.
5. Fire hose and appliances.
6. Shovels.
7. Firefighting tools.
8. Plugs and plugging equipment for spills.
9. Collection pools.
10. Firefighting pools.
11. Bales of straw.
12. Absorbent materials
13. Lumber or construction materials
14. Meals required for durations greater than four (4) hours
15. Government owned heavy equipment and associated wages.
16. Outside contractor equipment and associated wages.

§123-30

In the event a national disaster has been declared and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement is received for any of the above equipment or associated wages, the Township shall then reimburse the responsible party/parties of any monies rendered to the Township from the aforementioned fees.

**Section II**

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**Section III**

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

**Section IV**

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law but, in no event, less than 20 days after its final passage by the Township Committee and approval by the Mayor, where such approval is required.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for November 18, 2024 at 7:45 p.m.*

6. *An Ordinance to Establish No Parking Along Hillcrest Road*

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

***AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON AMENDING CHAPTER 225 OF THE CODE OF READINGTON TOWNSHIP ENTITLED " VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC"***

***ORDINANCE #34-2024***

***WHEREAS***, the Township Committee is aware of the safety issues, including parking along Hillcrest Road; and

***WHEREAS***, the Township Committee is actively monitoring, reviewing, and implementing traffic safety improvements in the township; and

***WHEREAS***, the Township Committee wishes to enhance pedestrian safety on Hillcrest Road; and

***NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED*** by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that Section 225 of the Code of the Township of Readington is hereby amended as follows:

***SECTION 1.*** The findings in the foregoing preambles are incorporated herein as if fully set forth at length.

***SECTION 2.*** Section 225-7(L) Schedule XII: Parking Prohibited at All Times to include Hillcrest Road on both sides from Readington Road to Pinebank Road

***SECTION 3.*** The sections, subsections and provisions of this ordinance may be renumbered as necessary or practical for codification purposes.

***SECTION 4.*** If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or provision of this chapter shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this chapter shall be deemed valid and effective.

***SECTION 5.*** All former traffic ordinances of the Township of Readington, and all ordinances or sections or portions of ordinances or the Readington Township Code which are in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter are hereby repealed, except that this repeal shall not affect or prevent the prosecution or punishment of any person for any act done or committed in violation of any ordinance hereby repealed prior to the taking effect of this chapter.

***SECTION 6.*** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication according to law.

***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Albanese to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

*The Public Hearing was scheduled for November 18, 2024 at 7:45 p.m.*

7. ***Request for Customized Inscription on a Memorial Bench***

The Committee discussed a request to use alternative wording on a memorial bench, differing from the standard approved phrases, "In memory of" or "In honor of," as outlined in the adopted policy.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Huelsebusch to retain the standard approved wording on the memorial benches, seconded by Mayor Mueller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

8. ***Resolution Authorizing the NJDEP WQM003-T Statements of Consent Form and TWA-1 Treatment Works Approval Permit Application for Apartments at Three Bridges Holding LLC***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

***#R-2024-184***

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
RESOLUTION***

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to extend the use of public sanitary sewers to serve an affordable housing development project in the Three Bridges area of the Township that includes 80 dwelling units on Block 81 Lot 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Readington has consented to the submission of an application for an NJDEP Treatment Works Approval permit for the modification, extension, and use of such sanitary sewers at the project location (Block 81 Lot 1) and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Readington has reviewed the application documents at its regular meeting held November 4, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined and reported by the Township Engineer that application documents are in order and may be filed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington does hereby authorize the following action:

1. The Township authorizes the Administrator/Municipal Clerk, Mayor, or Deputy Mayor to sign for the Governing Body at appropriate locations on the NJDEP WQM-003 Statements of Consent for TWA applications form and TWA-1 Treatment Works Approval Permit Application for the redevelopment project.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to introduce this ordinance, seconded by Mr. Heller and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Nay
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

9. \* **2024 Best Practices Inventory**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

10. **Discharge of Affordable Housing Agreement / Discharge of Mortgage  
(Block 21.06, Lot 201.01)**

Mr. Heller requested clarification regarding the discharge of the mortgage. Attorney Corsini responded that he would review the matter and provide an update at the next meeting.

**A MOTION** was made by Mayor Mueller to table this item until further information is provided, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	-Aye
Mr. Heller	- Aye
Mr. Huelsebusch	- Aye
Mayor Mueller	- Aye

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Sheola reported that the first edition of the Township newsletter will be coming out shortly. Administrator Sheola announced that the police department will be holding a toy drive this Saturday to collect donations of unwrapped toys to fill the three police cars that will be donated to Yancey County North Carolina in the wake of the Hurricane Helene disaster.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Corsini stated that he had nothing further to report.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer O'Brien reported that PSE&G has pushed back the trench work on Rockaway Road until Spring. Engineer O'Brien spoke to the road naming process and provided updates on work on bridges and roads in the Township.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**JOHN ALBANESE**

Mr. Albanese stated that he had nothing further to report.

**JONATHAN HELLER**

Mr. Heller stated that he had nothing further to report.

**JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH**

Mr. Huelsebusch shared that the Agriculture Advisory Committee sent letters to farmers to gauge their interest in potential land preservation opportunities. Mr. Huelsebusch continued that Open Space preserved a small parcel on Readington Road and provided an update on upcoming open space walks.

**ADAM MUELLER**

Mayor Mueller informed the public about the statewide ban on all outdoor fires due to the ongoing severe drought.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

***COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY***

Mr. Heller requested an update on Historic Preservation on buildings.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Albanese at 8:30 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Huelsebusch with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Submitted by:

Karin M Parker, *RMC*  
Municipal Clerk