

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Marc Laul called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated that in compliance with the "Open Public Meeting Act" this is a Regular Meeting of the Township Committee as published in the Hunterdon Review, the agenda has been posted at the Municipal Building and distributed to the Hunterdon Review, Courier News, the Express Times, the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Star Ledger.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Laul asked everyone to please stand for the Flag Salute and for a moment of silence in honor of our Servicemen and Women.

ROLL CALL

Present - Marc Laul Thomas McKee Brian Wunder
 Mike Schmidt Beverly Koehler

Absent-

Also Present - Attorney Dick Cushing, Clerk Karen Sandorse and no members of the public.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 27, 2017

Motion by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Special Meeting of February 27, 2017. AYES: Wunder, Laul, Schmidt, McKee ABSTAIN: Koehler

Minutes of the Executive Meeting of February 27, 2017

Motion by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of February 27, 2017. AYES: Wunder, Laul, Schmidt, McKee ABSTAIN: Koehler

Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2017

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2017. AYES: Wunder, Laul, Schmidt, McKee ABSTAIN: Koehler

Minutes of the Executive Meeting of February 28, 2017

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2017. AYES: Wunder, Laul, Schmidt, McKee ABSTAIN: Koehler

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2017

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2017.

Minutes of the Executive Session of March 1, 2017

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved minutes of the Executive Session meeting of March 1, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – for agenda items only.

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee opened the public comment portion of the meeting.

There were no comments from the public

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

PRESENTATION

Hunterdon County Economic Development Director Marc Saluk – Economic Development Initiative

Mr. Saluk stated that he was present to inform the Committee of the County's Economic Development Initiative program. The program's emphasis is to create opportunities for the emerging workforce, to keep young adults in Hunterdon County and to encourage others to move in. This effort will help to repopulate the schools and assist young adults in purchasing homes in the County. Mr. Saluk said that the County did a comprehensive Economic Development Study and there were many issues and challenges noted in the report. Mr. Saluk stated that the aging population and the declining population are the areas of most concern. Mr. Saluk stated that, although the statistics appear to be poor at this time, the Department of Labor's forecast for 2030 shows that the results are even bleaker for Hunterdon County. Mr. Saluk stated that all of this information indicates that Hunterdon County is unsustainable. Mr. Saluk noted that in the last 10 years, the County has transferred over to low wage job creation and certainly no one can live and raise a family, in Hunterdon County, with a low salary.

Mr. Saluk stated that Hunterdon County has Open Space, the Highlands, Farmland Preservation, little infrastructure and no political or public drive for large footprint projects. Mr. Saluk noted that these are the areas that the County needs to target.

Mr. Saluk said that the County would like to encourage “turnkey” type businesses to transfer into the County. This type of business will help companies prosper. Mr. Saluk stated that there are six municipalities, who are in discussions with the County, who hope to grow their technology community. They would all like to work to inspire technology companies to develop in Hunterdon County. Mr. Saluk stated that they will be working with the schools for student awareness and exposure to these types of opportunities.

Mr. Saluk informed the Committee of a hackathon that is being run by the County, together with, the Hunterdon Chamber and the Flemington Community Partnership. Mr. Saluk stated that the hackathon will be a 24-48 hour problem solving session, where IT individuals will attempt to move their projects forward or try to solve problems that are being presented to them. The hackathon will be held on April 28th-29th, at the Flemington Feed Mill on Route 12 in Flemington. Mr. Saluk stated that there are 125 highly trained individuals who have registered for the event. The hackathon will create a tech community for the individuals participating and they will all be involved in the Counties efforts also. Mr. Saluk said that the hackathon will keep the County in touch with the visionaries and it will provide an idea of what the rest of the system will look like in attempting to institute a tech launch incubator.

Mr. Saluk told the Committee that there is a large need for tourism in Hunterdon and that the County is trying to make tourism a concerted, fully funded, county wide effort.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 2017-02 – Salary Ordinance

Public Hearing

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the public hearing for Ordinance No. 2017-02 was opened.

There were no comments from the public.

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the public hearing for Ordinance No. 2017-02 was closed.

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee adopted Ordinance No. 2017-02 as written below.

TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
SALARY ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that:
SECTION A: This Ordinance shall be known and may be referred to be its short title which is "The 2014 Salary Ordinance"
SECTION B: The annual salary of the following officers and employees of the Township of

Lebanon shall be as set forth hereafter:

	SALARY	RANGES
Mayor	4,000.00	6,000.00
Committee	3,000.00	6,000.00
Open Space Coordinator	4,000.00	6,000.00
Tax Assessor	30,000.00	54,000.00
Township Clerk	40,000.00	84,000.00
Deputy Clerk	30,000.00	55,000.00
Tax Collector	30,000.00	47,000.00
Chief Financial Officer	2,000.00	30,000.00
Treasurer	30,000.00	35,000.00
Planning Board Clerk	15,000.00	30,000.00
Zoning Official	11,000.00	31,000.00
Board of Adjustment Secretary	15,000.00	30,000.00
Police Office Manager	29,000.00	52,000.00
Road Supervisor	55,000.00	88,000.00
Asst. Road Supervisor	40,000.00	71,000.00
Chief Mechanic	29,000.00	70,000.00
Road Employee	27,000.00	70,000.00
Police Chief	86,000.00	122,000.00
Police Sergeant	66,000.00	109,000.00
Police Officer	32,000.00	100,000.00
Office of Emergency Management	2,000.00	6,000.00
Dog Census	2,000.00	5,000.00

SECTION C: The hourly wage of the following employees of the Township of Lebanon shall be set forth hereafter:

Buildings and Grounds	12.00	15.00
Library Clerk	19.00	22.00
Assistant Library Clerk	9.00	15.00
Museum Curator	11.00	20.00
Assistant Museum Curator	9.00	17.00
Special Police Class II & Matrons	20.00	24.00
Dog Wardens	9.00	14.00
Mechanic Helper - over base pay	2.00	4.00
Fire Official	24.00	26.00
Perc Test Witness	100.00	125.00
Special Traffic Guards	25.00	38.00
Accounts Payable	20.00	23.00

SECTION D: The rate for mileage shall be the current federal limit.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 33-2017 as written below.

Resolution No. 33-2017 – Overpayment of 2017 Taxes

TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 33-2017
RETURN OVERPAYMENT 2017 TAXES

WHEREAS there exists an overpayment of \$2,651.06 for first quarter 2017 taxes due to a duplicate payment for Block 77, Lot 7.15, 2 Rolling Hills Way, and,

WHEREAS this amount has been requested for refund by Corelogic Real Estate Tax Service,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer be authorized to prepare and the Mayor, Treasurer and Clerk be authorized to sign this refund check to:

Corelogic Real Estate Tax Service
Attn: Refund Department
PO Box 961250
Fort Worth TX 76161-9858

Resolution No. 34-2017 – Police Salary Resolution

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 34-2017 as written below.

**Township of Lebanon
Salary Resolution
No. 34-2017**

RESOLVED, BY THE Township of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey fixing the Compensation and Salaries of certain officers and employees of the Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon that this Resolution be known as the 2015-2017 Salary Resolution and the annual salaries of the following officers be set forth hereafter:

SECTION A:	2015 Salary	2016 Salary	2017 Salary
Chief of Police Mattson- Retired 07/01/16	110,589.34	112,745.83	
Chief of Police Gale - Effective 10/05/16		117,210.01	119,495.61
Sergeant Gale - Until 10/05/16	107,317.54	109,410.23	
Sergeant - Gumeak - Effective 11/02/16		109,410.23	111,543.73
Sergeant - Rautenberg - Effective 11/02/16		109,410.23	111,543.73
1st Class - Smith	98,716.50	100,641.47	102,603.97
1st Class - Rautenberg	98,716.50	100,641.47	
1st Class - Gumeak	98,716.50	100,641.47	
1st Class - Unkert	98,716.50	100,641.47	102,603.97
1st Class- Cronicc	98,716.50	100,641.47	102,603.97
1st Class - Lane	95,576.37	97,766.00	99,994.90
1st Class - Thomsen	95,576.37	97,766.00	99,994.90
1st Class - Plimpton - Effective 10/09/16		42,686.40	43,518.78

Resolution No. 35-2017 - Bergen County Cooperative Pricing Agreement

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 35-2017 as written below.

**RESOLUTION FOR MEMBER PARTICIPATION
IN A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM**
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT
RESOLUTION NO. 35-2017

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in #CK04-BERGEN a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2017 the Governing Body of the Township of Lebanon, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

TITLE

This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Lebanon Township

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)*, the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

CONTRACTING UNIT

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the *Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.)* and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

2017 BUDGET INTRODUCTION

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. McKee and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 36-2017 as written below.

Resolution No. 36-2017- "Special Items of General Revenue"

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 36-2017**

WHEREAS, the 2017 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 15th day of March, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2017 the Township of Lebanon has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$47,633.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2017 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:**"

Clean Communities Program-2017	\$33,595
Clean Communities Program - Prior Year Unapprop	6,832
Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant – Prior Year Unapprop.	2,520
Recycling Tonnage Grant - Prior Year Unapprop	<u>4,686</u>
	<u>\$47,633</u>

Resolution No. 37-2017 - Deferral of School Taxes

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 37-2017 as written below.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 37-2017**

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 (The Supplemental Municipal Property Tax Relief Act) under Section 13 required municipalities whose school tax year is on a fiscal basis to defer twenty-five (25) per cent of the maximum allowable amount and anticipate it into their budget over a four (4) year period beginning in budget year 1991, and ending in budget year 1994 as additional Municipal surplus to offset the local property tax levy for local purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the provisions of C.63, P.L.1991 were amended in calendar year 1993 that changed the mandatory provision of the use of this deferred school tax to a permissive provision; and,

WHEREAS, the revised provisions for electing to utilize the deferred school tax require the governing body to make such election by introduction of the municipal budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon that election be made to defer school taxes as of December 31, 2015, and be reflected in the Annual Financial Statement for the year 2015 as follows:

<u>FY 15-16</u>	<u>MAXIMUM AMOUNT</u>
<u>SCHOOL LEVY</u>	<u>OF DEFER TAX</u>

Regional School Tax	\$5,326,732	\$2,663,366
TOTAL MAXIMUM DEFER TAX 12/31/16		2,663,336
LESS – DEFER TAX 12/31/15		1,662,452
INCREASE IN MAXIMUM DEFER TAX		
ALLOWABLE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016		\$1,000,914
ACTUAL AMOUNT INCREASE OF DEFERRED AT 12/31/16		\$175,000

**Resolution No. 38-2017 - 2017 Municipal Budget Introduction
 Public Hearing to be held on April 19, 2017**

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 38-2017 as written below.

**TOWNSHIP OF LEBANON
 COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
 STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 RESOLUTION NO. 38-2017**

WHEREAS, the Township of Lebanon is holding a meeting on March 15, 2017, for the purpose of introducing the 2017 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Lebanon, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, that the Township of Lebanon hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2017 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on March 15, 2017.

2017 LEBANON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 500,000.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	2,797,955.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	280,000.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>2,399,447.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$5,977,402.00</u>
Salaries and Wages	\$2,083,629.00
Other Expenses	1,667,827.00
Capital Improvements	435,000.00
Debt Service	841,594.00
Statutory Expenses	520,411.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>428,941.00</u>
Total 2017 Municipal Budget	<u>\$5,977,402.00</u>
Municipal Tax Rate	\$0.3226 (Est.)

PROCLAMATION – American Red Cross Month 2017

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee supported the below proclamation.

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH 2017 A Proclamation

In Lebanon Township we have a long history of helping our neighbors in need. American Red Cross Month is a special time to recognize and thank our heroes – those Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their time and resources to help community members.

These heroes help families find shelter after a home fire. They give blood to help trauma victims and cancer patients. They deliver comfort items to military members in the hospital. They use their lifesaving skills to save someone from a heart attack, drowning or choking. They enable children around the globe to be vaccinated against measles and rubella.

The American Red Cross depends on local heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster. We applaud our heroes here in Lebanon Township who give of themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand.

Across the country and around the world, the American Red Cross responds to disasters big and small. In fact, every eight minutes the organization responds to a community disaster, providing shelter, food, emotional support and other necessities to those affected. It collects nearly 40 percent of the nation's blood supply; provides 24-hour support to military members, veterans and their families; teaches millions lifesaving skills, such as lifeguarding and CPR; and through its Restoring Family Links program, connects family members separated by crisis, conflict or migration.

We dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Marc Laul, Mayor of Lebanon Township, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Lebanon Township and the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim March 2017 as American Red Cross Month. I encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

OLD BUSINESS

Animal Control Update

Ms. Koehler stated that she had a very good and lengthy interview with the current Animal Control Officer (ACO), Kim Bennett, on Saturday. Ms. Koehler stated that the sub-committee has done their due diligence in collecting information from the State, County and a few Animal Control Officers. They have also researched the laws governing Animal Control. Ms. Koehler noted that at this time the subcommittee is prepared to conduct interviews. Ms. Koehler stated that the Mayor appointed a subcommittee to investigate the ACO needs for the Township. Ms. Koehler stated that the subcommittee was asked to bring recommendations to the Committee for consideration but at this point she feels that the Committee may want more involvement. Ms. Koehler asked if the entire Committee would like to be a part of the interviews. Mayor Laul said that if there is a quorum, the interviews will have to be held at a publicly noticed meeting. Ms. Koehler said that she wants to avoid inefficiency during the process. Ms. Koehler questioned the need for a subcommittee if the Township Committee does not trust their judgement.

Mr. Wunder stated that he would like the Committee to conduct the final interviews, as they have done in the past, with the Police Officers and DPW employees. Mayor Laul stated that he feels that it is acceptable for the subcommittee to recommend two ACO's to the Committee for final interviews.

Mr. McKee asked; what if some of the Committee members have concerns with what services the two recommended ACO's would provide and questioned if there a true need for all of the services? Mr. Schmidt stated that he has full confidence in subcommittee interviewing and making the recommendation to the Committee but if scope is changing from current ACO then he would like to know. Ms. Koehler stated that the current ACO contract states that she handles domestic dogs and cats. Ms. Bennett only receives dogs that have been captured by the Police Department. Ms. Bennett is able to handle wild life and it would be a "call out", no different than a domestic animal. There is no extra expense for the expertise. Mr. McKee stated that he thought that Fish Game and Wildlife (FG&W) handles wildlife issues. Ms. Koehler stated that FG&W will handle nuisance problems, without a rabies issue. Ms. Koehler stated that the ACO is the person to tell the Police Officer that it is ok to shoot an animal. Ms. Koehler stated that the Police Officers do not have rabies shots like the ACO; therefore, they can be put in jeopardy. The ACO also has the proper equipment, poles and a containment vehicle. The Police Officers cannot do decapitations if necessary. Chief Gale stated that if the ACO captures a sick animal, the rabies testing will need to be conducted and the Township will have to cover the cost. Chief Gale noted that, in the past, if the Police received a call for a sick animal the Police would shoot the animal and bury it under a large rock. The only time the animal would be tested for rabies is when there had been human contact. Ms. Koehler stated that the ACO will investigate to insure that no one has been exposed to the animal or bitten and will then complete all pertinent paperwork. Ms. Koehler stated that the decapitation will be done only when someone has been exposed. Mayor Laul stated that quarantining is a problem because the current ACO does not provide the service. Chief Gale stated that when a dog can be quarantined, in the owners home, the Police will follow up at the end of the ten days to insure that the animal is alive. Ms. Koehler stated that this is a risky area and, although the risk is not high, there is always a possibility that someone could be bitten by a rabid animal. Ms. Koehler stated that it is important to be sure that it does not fall back on the Township that proper procedures were not followed. Ms. Koehler stated that it is important to have an ACO with full knowledge of wildlife. Ms. Koehler stated that response times, of less than an hour, in the event an emergency, is vital.

Mr. McKee asked where the impoundment would be in the future. Ms. Koehler stated that the future depends on who is hired. The ACO usually has a specific impoundment facility that they use as they usually do not have access to all impoundment facilities. Mr. McKee stated that he has concerns with residents having to drive a far distance to collect their pets.

Mr. McKee asked what the subcommittees thoughts are on livestock. Ms. Koehler stated that she feels that the Police should try to reunite the livestock with its owner first. If there is an accident involving livestock, CART may be called also. Mr. Wunder said that if it should happen that livestock were to get hit by a car and the vet needs to euthanize the animal, the Township needs to recover the cost for such plus the cost of moving the animal off of the roadway.

Ms. Koehler stated that she spent the time finding out the needs of the Township and what the laws are. Mr. McKee stated that he has reviewed all of the information that Ms. Koehler provided plus did some of his own research and there are simple solutions that can be found. Ms. Koehler stated that if there is an incident the Township needs to have the individual who can take care of it.

Mr. McKee said that he feels that the Township should not include livestock in the plan.

Ms. Koehler stated that a subcommittee was formed and they should be left to do their job. The Committee does not seem to trust the subcommittee's efforts so they are micromanaging the process. Ms. Koehler asked the Committee to please allow them to do their job and noted that the Committee

needs to work as a team. Ms. Koehler said that she works with a tight budget and does not want to be spending money but there needs to be experienced individuals called when necessary. Ms. Koehler stated that she is trying to work within a \$5000 budget. Discussion was held on where the ACO costs will come from.

Mr. Schmidt asked if the ACO will be responsible to conduct a dog census or does the Township want to have an in house individual to replace Judy Dunlap? Mr. McKee stated that there is a person in the Township who is willing to offer assistance, in certain ways, and that local impoundment is a consideration by this individual. Mr. McKee stated that there would have to be an agreement between the local individual and the ACO. Ms. Koehler asked if the individual will be willing to provide insurance. Mr. McKee stated that if the Dog Census individual is hired by the Township, possibly the Township's insurance policy will cover them.

Ms. Koehler feels that the residents need to be educated on the issue also.

Chief Gale stated that he has no problem with following up on dog or cat bite issues where the pet is quarantined at home. Ms. Koehler stated that in her Executive Summary she spoke about good relations with the Community and Chief Gale is providing such in his efforts. Ms. Koehler stated that she would only request an "in person" follow up if a dog or cat has bitten a person or their pet. Ms. Koehler stated that it is not enough to make a phone call; someone should view the dog or cat.

Mr. Wunder stated that the subcommittee brought up the livestock issue so that the Committee would be aware of the potential issues. Mr. McKee feels that the livestock issue should be let go. Ms. Koehler stated that if her bull were to get out she would want someone who has the expertise to recover it.

Mr. McKee stated that he feels that the worst case scenario is only being discussed. Ms. Koehler said that the Township and the residents need to be protected. The ACO will only be called out if necessary or required by law but the Township needs an ACO who, if they cannot handle the problem, they will have the network to find someone who can.

Ms. Koehler informed Attorney Cushing that part of the confusion at the Board of Health meeting was due to Attorney St. Angelo informing the Board that Animal Control would fall under the Board of Health. Attorney Cushing then advised, at the Committee meeting, that Animal Control should fall under the Township Committee. There were no details provided as to why it would be done either way. Ms. Koehler informed Attorney Cushing that she would like for the Attorneys to communicate and if Attorney St. Angelo is not sure of an answer, it would be best for her to say that she will get back to the Committee. Ms. Koehler stated that while on vacation she was working diligently to meet a deadline for the Board of Health meeting and when she returned she was "submarined" by her fellow Committee members, largely due to poor advice.

Discussion was held on how to proceed with the interviews. It was decided that the subcommittee will bring the pros and cons of each ACO, to the Committee, for them to make the final decision.

Township Volunteer Picnic

Ms. Koehler stated that the Volunteer Picnic date was set for July 29, 2017. Since that time, the date of June 10, 2017 has become available. Ms. Koehler stated that based on comments she received on the

date, it seems to make sense, to change the date from July 29, 2017 to June 10, 2017. Ms. Koehler asked the Committee to provide her with any recommendations for the invitation list.

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee changed the Volunteer Picnic date from July 29, 2017 to June 10, 2017.

Police Department Prescription Drop Box

Chief Gale stated that he looked into having a prescription drop box placed in the Police Department. The State Attorney General's Office, through the Department of Consumer Affairs, directs the program. A State representative came to the Police Department to conduct a site assessment and all is in order. Chief Gale said that, originally there was going to be a cost of \$890 for the box, so he didn't move forward, but since that time the representative called and said that the State will be covering the cost of the box, if the Township is still interested. Chief Gale said that the box will be delivered in approximately 2 months.

Traffic Survey

Chief Gale stated that based on the Committee's request, traffic counters were placed on five roads in the Township, for five weeks, last fall. They were pulled up in December due to the impending winter months. Chief Gale stated that this was the first step establishing a residential suburban speed limit ordinance. Chief Gale provided the Committee with the statics collected from the traffic counters.

Chief Gale said that he feels that some of the roads will benefit from having a 35 mile per hour speed limit posted. Chief Gale said that to create an ordinance, the Township Engineer will need to conduct a survey of the roadways for length, width, grade, etc. The information will then be submitted to the NJDOT for approval. The cost for the engineering will have to be obtained from Steve Risse. Discussion was held on placing the signs without DOT approval. The signs would then be advisory and not enforceable.

DPW Manager – Award of Bids for Surplus Equipment

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the request of the DPW Manger to award bids for surplus equipment as outline in his March 6, 2017 correspondence.

Tax Assessor Position

Mayor Laul provided the Committee with a copy of an ad for the Tax Assessor's position. Mayor Laul noted that the ad can be placed on the League of Municipalities website to see how many candidates are out there. Mayor Laul stated that Readington Township does not fit for a shared service at this time. Mayor Laul said that he and Mr. Schmidt determined that the position could be for 12-16 hours per week with the possibility of having evening hours, one day a week. The ad is to say that the hours are to be determined to address 3000 property lines. Mayor Laul stated that if the Township is unable to appoint a Tax Assessor, right away, the County Tax Office may be able to provide assistance.

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee authorized the Clerk to post the ad on the League of Municipalities website with it being noted; hours to be determined to address 3000 property line items.

NEW BUSINESS

DPW Manager – Request to Seek Bids for Black Top

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Wunder and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the DPW Manager’s request to seek bids for the purchase of black top.

Police Chief’s Request to Purchase Bullet Proof Vests

Motion by Mr. McKee, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the Police Chief’s request to purchase bullet proof vests through Lawman Supply Company at a cost of \$8,558.90

Jr. Police Academy

Chief Gale informed the Committee that, years ago, the Police Department held a Jr. Police Academy. Chief Gale would like to reestablish the program at this time. The academy will be for the 8th grade students and the Chief is hopeful that there will be at least 20 attendees.

Motion by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee authorized the Police Chief to reestablish the Jr. Police Academy.

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

Committee Members provided a description of vouchers exceeding \$1000.00.

Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee approved the March 15, 2017 bill list, in amount of \$81,099.98, with Ms. Koehler receiving clarification on the Aqua Water bill. AYES: Koehler, Laul, Schmidt, McKee ABSTAIN: Wunder

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Wunder, and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee opened the public comment portion of the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

LTCM

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Motion by Ms. Koehler, seconded by Mr. Schmidt and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Township Committee closed the public comment portion of the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to come before the Committee a motion was made by Mr. Wunder, seconded by Ms. Koehler and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen J. Sandorse, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk

Approved: April 19, 2017

Marc Laul, Mayor