

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE - TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 25, 2013**

Deputy Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Township Hall, Brookside, New Jersey.

ROLL CALL:    Mr. Baumann            Absent  
                  Mr. Strobel                Present  
                  Mrs. Thomas               Present  
                  Mr. Tolley                 Present  
                  Mayor Merkt               Present (arrived at 7:50 p.m.)

Also Present: John M. Mills, III, Esq., Township Attorney  
Stephen Mountain, Township Administrator  
Kathleen Potter, Township Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ADEQUATE NOTICE:** Mrs. Potter read the following statement: Adequate notice of this meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Star Ledger, Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on January 3, 2013; Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Offices and Notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

**RECAP ON POST EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTIONS**

Mrs. Thomas stated that no action was taken.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Comcast – Overview of emergency preparedness procedures  
Charles Smith, Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs, stated that the company made significant investments to improve facilities. For example, generators and backup generators have been installed at the main facilities.

Tom Smith, Division Director of Business Continuity, reviewed the Incident Management System. There was further discussion regarding generators and newly purchased compute software. Mr. Smith stated that the lack of communications with electric companies created a big obstacle during the storm. Comcast is currently working with the electric utilities to enhance restoration coordination.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Merkt called for a motion to move the regular meeting minutes from June 10, 2013. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve, except Mr. Strobel abstained.

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Mayor Merkt called for a motion to move the executive session meeting minutes from June 10, 2013. Mr. Tolley so moved. Mrs. Thomas seconded. All members present voted to approve, except Mr. Strobel abstained.

**DISCUSSION**

Roxiticus Road Signage

Mr. Mountain noted that the Committee previously took the request for additional signage into consideration and no additional signage was installed. There are currently signs posted acknowledging the nature of the road. Mr. Mountain stated that, while it is not clear whether additional signage would have prevented the accident, warning/ advisement signs can be installed for drivers who do not frequent the road.

The Committee supported the installation of additional signage.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Tolley stated that the Brookside Bridge Subcommittee met with the County to discuss alternate designs. The new proposal will include an all metal bridge, wheelchair access, and no sidewalks which will reduce the width to 35 feet. Another public presentation is anticipated. Mr. Tolley added that the Committee is seeking input from the emergency services and Police Department regarding the detour.

**HEARING PERSONS PRESENT**

Pat Zimmerman, West Main Street

There was clarification on the wheelchair access for the proposed bridge.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Thomas stated that Patriot's Race was well attended with over 300 participants. The Recreation Commission awarded the first Patriots Scholarship Award to Rebecca Mclean. Movie night is scheduled for June 28, 2013 at Brookside Beach. Mrs. Thomas encouraged residents to visit the Township website for a list of Brookside Beach activities.

Mayor Merkt stated that he received a school study RFP from Mendham Borough. The Borough requested Township input by mid-July. Mayor Merkt questioned if moving forward with an FRP is the right step since there has been no further commitment from other towns.

Mr. Strobel stated that the Committee passed a resolution in order to build consensus; however, there has been no response from the school board. He voiced concern that groups are using a "divide and concur" tactic by working separately with the Borough. Working separately has only led to confusion in the past and communities need to work together. Mr. Strobel noted that Chester Township passed a resolution agreeing to contribute 20%, not to exceed \$10,000.00, toward the cost of the study. The resolution did not specify which criteria should be studied.

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Mr. Tolley stated that the Township should have an understanding of the other municipalities' intentions before moving forward. He noted that it will be unproductive to invest time in an RFP that will not meet the approval of other towns.

Mayor Merkt stated that he will reach out to the mayors before the next meeting, adding that there needed to be consensus regarding the options that will be studied.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Ordinance Public Hearing**

**ORDINANCE 3-2013**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM ADOPTING  
AND IMPLEMENTING AMENDED OFFICIAL ZONING MAP

The Ordinance was carried to July 8, 2013 meeting.

**ORDINANCE 6-2013**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM AMENDING CHAPTER 21,  
SECTIONS 21-6.4 AND 21-6.5; AND AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF  
"HEIGHT OF STRUCTURE"

The Ordinance was carried to July 8, 2013 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Ordinance Introduction**

**ORDINANCE 7-2013**

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS  
AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM IN THE  
COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**Resolutions**

**RESOLUTION 2013-74**

APPROVING 2012 LOSAP ELIGIBILITY LIST

The resolution was tabled.

**RESOLUTION 2013-87**

RESOLUTION OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM RE:  
URGING THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO MAINTAIN AS OPEN AND VIABLE CARE  
CENTERS THE DEVELOPMENTAL CENTERS AT WOODBRIDGE AND TOTOWA

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Tolley so moved. Mrs. Thomas seconded. All members present voted to approve.

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**RESOLUTION 2013-88**

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve, except Mrs. Thomas abstained.

**RESOLUTION 2013-89**

**AUTHORIZING LEASE AGREEMENT WITH RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP FOR  
ANIMAL CONTROL AND SHELTERING SERVICES AT INDIA BROOK KENNEL**

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2013-90**

**AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP'S CO-SPONSORSHIP IN THE UPCOMING  
JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION WITH THE BROOKSIDE FOURTH OF JULY  
PARADE COMMITTEE**

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2013-91**

**GRANTING PERMISSION FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS  
SUNRISE LAKE –THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2013**

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Tolley seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2013-92**

**AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT**

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mr. Tolley so moved. Mrs. Thomas seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**RESOLUTION 2013-93**

**ESTABLISHING SALARIES  
BROOKSIDE BEACH STAFF FOR 2013**

Mayor Merkt read the resolution by title and called for a motion. Mrs. Thomas so moved. Mr. Strobel seconded. All members present voted to approve.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**HEARING PERSONS PRESENT**

Brian Cavanaugh, 610 Cherry Lane

The RFP was discussed. Mr. Cavanaugh urged the Committee to focus on getting three towns to agree on RFP language. He reiterated his belief that Mendham Township should contribute

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\$15,000.00. Mayor Merkt stated that the RFP will be reviewed by the Committee and comments sent to the Borough.

Jamie Button, 10 Glenbrook Drive

Chester Township's resolution was reviewed. It was noted that the resolution required all five towns to participate.

Norm Preston, West Main Street

Mr. Preston asked for an update regarding the Joint Court. Mr. Mountain stated that the Township has reached out to several towns to find a suitable partner. It was confirmed that the Borough camp no longer utilizes Brookside Beach. Mr. Preston stated that it was discouraging to see shared services ending. Mayor Merkt agreed that shared services should be preserved and noted that Brookside Beach and related activities are still open to Borough residents.

There being no further comments, hearing persons present was closed.

**ADJOURN**

Upon a motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Potter, Township Clerk