

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING –February 3, 2020**

Mayor Heller *calls the meeting to order at 6:30 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 J. Heller, Mr. J. Albanese, Mrs. BA Fort and Mr. B. Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator V. Mekovetz, Attorney S. Dragan, Engineer R. O’Brien

ABSENT: Deputy Mayor J. Huelsebusch

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, THEREFORE, 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

<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Basis Of Public Exclusion</u>	<u>Date Anticipated When Disclosed to Public</u>
Professional Services	Contract Negotiations	Certain information at the discretion of the Township Committee tonight...other Information will remain confidential
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP (Township Auditors)</i> ♦ <i>McManimon & Scotland (Bond Counsel)</i> ♦ <i>Martin Allen, Esq. (Tax Appeal Attorney)</i> ♦ <i>Fisher & Phillips LLP (Labor Attorney)</i> ♦ <i>Scott Mitzner, Esq. (Public Defender)</i> ♦ <i>Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)</i> ♦ <i>Jennifer Toth, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)</i> ♦ <i>Clarke•Caton• Hintz (Township Planners)</i> ♦ <i>AEIS (Inspection Svcs. for Lake Cushetunk Dam)</i> ♦ <i>Jeffrey Surenian & Associates (Special Counsel)</i> ♦ <i>River Net Computer LLC (Computer & Printer Maintenance)</i> ♦ <i>Stephen Davis, Esq. (Municipal Prosecutor)</i> ♦ <i>Richard Cushing, Esq. / Gebhardt & Kiefer (Special Counsel)</i> ♦ <i>Van Cleef Engineering (Township Engineer)</i> ♦ <i>Princeton Public Affairs Group (Governmental Relations Matters)</i> ♦ <i>Animal Control Solutions (Animal Control Services)</i> ♦ <i>Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Township Attorney)</i> 		
Saums (Block 74, Lot 4)	Contract Negotiations	“ “ “
Block 45, Lot 36.181 (Riley).....	Contract Negotiations.....	“ “ “

Executive Session Minutes..... Attorney-Client Privilege..... “ “ “
• *December 16, 2019*
• *January 21, 2020*

Affordable Housing..... Potential Litigation..... “ “ “

Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33;
Block 56, Lots 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 67, Lot 2
(Solberg Aviation)..... 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. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

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

Executive Session:

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Lerch, Vinci & Higgins (Township Auditors)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-16

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL AUDITOR SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Municipal Auditing Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Municipal Auditor Services at an annual rate of \$36,500.00.

WHEREAS, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Lerch, Vinci & Higgins LLP as described herein; and

Resolution #R-2020-16 cont'd:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / McManimon & Scotland (Bond Counsel)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-17

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
BOND ATTORNEY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Bond Attorney Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Bond Attorney Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C. as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

Resolution #R-2020-17 cont'd:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Martin Allen, Esq. (Tax Appeal Attorney)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-18

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
TAX ATTORNEY/BANKRUPTCY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Tax Attorney/Bankruptcy Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Martin Allen, Esq. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Tax Attorney/Bankruptcy Services at a rate of \$175 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted 2020 budget.

WHEREAS, Martin Allen, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Martin Allen, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Martin Allen, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Martin Allen, Esq. as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Fisher & Phillips, LLP (Labor Attorney)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-19

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
LABOR COUNSEL SERVICES***

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Labor Counsel Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Fisher & Phillips, LLP has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Labor Counsel Services for rates as follows:

- Partner-Level Attorney - \$350.00 per hour.
- Senior Associate - \$290.00 per hour.
- Junior Associate - \$210.00 per hour

for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Fisher & Phillips, LLP has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Fisher & Phillips, LLP has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Fisher & Phillips, LLP from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Fisher & Phillips, LLP as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Scott Mitzner, Esq. (Public Defender)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-20

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES***

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Municipal Public Defender Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Scott Mitzner, Esq. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Municipal Public Defender Services at a rate of \$110 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted 2020 budget.

WHEREAS, Scott Mitzner, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Scott Mitzner, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Scott Mitzner, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Scott Mitzner, Esq. as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Anthony Rotunno, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-21

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES***

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. of Kuchinsky and Rotunno, PC. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services at a rate of \$95 per hour; and

WHEREAS, Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Anthony M. Rotunno, Esq. described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Jennifer Toth, Esq. (Alternate Public Defender)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-22

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
ALTERNATE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES***

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. of Winegar, Wilhelm, Glynn & Roemersma has submitted a proposal indicating she will provide Alternate Municipal Public Defender Services at a rate of \$95 per hour; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Jennifer L. Toth, Esq. described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith - Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Clarke-Caton-Hintz (Township Planners)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-23

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Professional Planning and Landscape Architectural Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Clarke•Caton•Hintz has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Planning and Landscape Architectural Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted 2020 budget.

WHEREAS, Clarke•Caton•Hintz has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Clarke•Caton•Hintz has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Clarke•Caton•Hintz from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Clarke•Caton•Hintz as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith -Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / AEIS (Inspection Services for Lake Cushetunk Dam)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-24

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE LAKE CUSHETUNK DAM

WHEREAS, there exists a need in the Township of Readington for Professional Services; and

WHEREAS, The Local Public Contract Law (*N.J.S.A.40A:11-1 et seq.*) requires that the Resolution hiring a professional for professional services with competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington as follows:

1. That the following contract has been awarded without competitive bidding as a “Professional Service” in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)* of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered or to be performed are by persons authorized by law to practice their profession:

- AEIS (Advanced Engineering & Inspection Services) for inspection services for the Lake Cushetunk Dam at a cost of \$17,600.00

2. Said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020.

3. Copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith -Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Jeffrey Surenian & Associates (Special Counsel)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-25

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR
SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL SERVICES***

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Special Litigation Counsel Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., Jeffrey R. Surenian and Associates, LLC has submitted proposal indicating he will act as Special Litigation Counsel at the following rates: Attorney – \$200 per hour in addition to lower rates for supporting personnel; for the following matters:

Re: *Township of Readington Affordable Housing Obligations*

for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., Jeffrey R. Surenian and Associates, LLC, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Jeffrey R. Surenian, Esq., Jeffrey R. Surenian and Associates, LLC, as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / River Net Computers (Computer & Printer Maintenance)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-26

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER AND PRINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Professional Computer and Printer Maintenance Services; and

WHEREAS, River Net Computers LLC has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Computer and Printer Maintenance Services at a rate of \$220 per month (\$2640 annually) and after two (2) *no charge* on-site visits, \$49.99 per visit plus \$85 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes entering into a contract with River Net Computers LLC has described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	- Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Stephen Davis, Esq. (Municipal Prosecutor)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-27

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Municipal Prosecutor services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

Resolution #R-2020-27 cont'd:

WHEREAS, Stephen Davis, Esq. has submitted a proposal indicating he will provide Municipal Prosecutor services for \$150 per hour for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Stephen Davis, Esq. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Stephen Davis, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Stephen Davis, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Stephen Davis, Esq. as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Richard Cushing (Gebhardt & Kiefer (Special Counsel)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-28

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL LITIGATION COUNSEL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Special Litigation Counsel Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term "non-fair and open contract," for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

Resolution #R-2020-28 cont'd:

WHEREAS, Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC has submitted a proposal indicating they will act as Special Litigation Counsel at the following rates:

1. Readington v. Solberg (Appeal)
\$335 per hour for Partners
\$285 per hour for Associates
\$120 per hour for Paralegals
2. 388 Route 22 Holdings, LLC Readington Realty v. Twp of Readington
\$300 per hour for Attorney
\$250 per hour for Associates
3. Rosedale and Rosehill Cemetery v. Twp of Readington
\$220 per hour for Attorney
\$100 per hour for Paralegal
4. New Matters – to be determined

for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC, has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer's Certification of the availability of funds is on file - (N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Gebhardt & Kiefer, PC, as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Van Cleef Engineering (Township Engineer)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-29

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL, ENGINEERING AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveying Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provision of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5* and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19.44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19.44a-8, et. seq.,* and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Van Cleef Engineering Associates, has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveying Services for rates as detailed in the contract for a total amount not to exceed the amount appropriated for this service in the approved/adopted budget.

WHEREAS, Van Cleef Engineering Associates has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Van Cleef Engineering Associates, has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Van Cleef Engineering Associates, from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file – *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Van Cleef Engineering Associates as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service Contract including the rate schedule are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Princeton Public Affairs Group (Governmental Relations Matters)

Mayor Heller stated that this matter will be deferred until the next meeting.

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Animal Control Solutions (Animal Control Services)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-30

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Animal Control Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Animal Control Solutions has submitted a proposal indicating they will provide Animal Control Services at an annual rate of \$26,496; and

WHEREAS, Animal Control Solutions has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Animal Control Solutions has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Animal Control Solutions from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Animal Control Solutions as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. / Mason Griffin Pierson (Township Attorney)

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-31

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has a need to acquire Township Attorney Services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-20.5*; and

WHEREAS, the term “non-fair and open contract,” for the purposes of the law, refers to a Professional Services Contract awarded to a contractor who has not made a political contribution as described in *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq.* or in *N.J.S.A. 19:44a-8, et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Township Administrator has determined and certified in writing that the value of the services may exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC) has submitted a proposal indicating she will act as Township Attorney at an annual rate of \$129,120 based on an estimated average of 80-86 hours per month; and

WHEREAS, Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC) has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Readington in the previous one (1) year, and that the contract will prohibit Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer’s Certification of the availability of funds is on file - *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*) and will be amended to reflect the final approved funds for this purpose upon adoption/approval of the 2020 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with Sharon A. Dragan, Esq. (Mason, Griffin & Pierson, PC) as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said contract shall expire on December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Professional Service are on file with the Municipal Clerk and are available there for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to adopt this resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fort and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

Contract Negotiations / Saums (Block 74, Lot 4)

Mayor Heller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Contract Negotiations / Developers Agreement / Quik Check (Block 39, Lots 56 & 57)

A ***MOTION*** was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Developers Agreement as amended, seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith -Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

Contract Negotiations / Block 34, Lot 36.181 (Riley)

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$35,000 FROM THE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A DEED RESTRICTION ON AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT (BLOCK 34, LOT 36.181) IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE #01-2020

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. \$35,000 is hereby appropriated from the Housing Trust Fund for the acquisition of a deed restriction on an affordable housing unit located at 181 Aster Court, Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, also known as Block 34, Lot 36.181 on the tax maps of the Township, including all related costs and expenditures incident thereto, in and by the Township of Readington, in the County of Hunterdon, New Jersey (the “Township”).

Section 2. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 3. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq. authorizing acquisitions of Property, including easements and restrictions, for public purposes, the acquisition of the aforementioned deed restriction on the affordable housing unit located at 181 Aster Court in order to retain it as an affordable unit is hereby approved. In furtherance of this objective, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Administrator/Clerk and Township Attorney are authorized and directed to take all reasonable, necessary and lawful steps, including execution of any and all necessary agreements and documents, including but not limited to affordable housing agreements and restrictions, mortgage and other documents, toward the acquisition of the deed restriction on the Property, in the manner and subject to the terms and conditions specified above, and are further authorized and directed to make payment to the owner of the Property in an amount equal to \$35,000 in consideration of the said deed restriction.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by law.

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

Mr. Albanese - Aye
Mrs. Fort - Aye
Mr. Smith -Aye
Mayor Heller - Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for February 18, 2020 at 7:45 p.m.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / December 16, 2019

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Albanese to approve the Executive Session Minutes of December 16, 2019 for content only, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Attorney-Client Privilege / Executive Session Minutes / January 21, 2020

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Executive Session Minutes of January 20, 2020 for content only, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded. Mayor Heller and Mrs. Fort abstained since they were not present at that meeting.

Potential Litigation / Affordable Housing

Mayor Heller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

Litigation / Solberg Aviation / Block 48, Lot 23; Block 55, Lot 33; Block 56, Lot 1, 3, 6 & 8; Block 39, Lot 24 and Block 67, Lot 2

Mayor Heller stated that this matter remains in Executive Session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Heller 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. Broten, Dogwood Drive, requested to remove *Note Sale Bid Results* and the *Payment of Bills* from the Consent Agenda.

1. * **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of meeting of December 16, 2019, December 27, 2019, January 6, 2020 and January 21, 2020
2. * **Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 39, Lot 55 (Smoot)**
3. * **Application for Blue Light Permit / Peter Plennert**
4. * **Resolution Designating May as Building Safety Month**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-32

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington in Hunterdon County, is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, and;

WHEREAS, our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

Resolution #R-2020-32 cont'd:

WHEREAS, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a nonprofit that brings together local, state and federal officials that are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work, play, and;

WHEREAS, our nation benefits economically and technologically from using the International Codes that are developed by a national, voluntary consensus codes and standards developing organization, our government is able to avoid the high cost and complexity of developing and maintaining these codes, which are the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the world;

WHEREAS, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquake; which, according to a FEMA-commissioned study by the National Institute of Building Sciences, provide \$11 in future mitigation benefits for every dollar invested, and;

WHEREAS, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings that are essential to America's prosperity, and;

WHEREAS, "Safer Buildings, Safer Communities, Safer World," the theme for Building Safety Month 2020, encourages all Americans to raise awareness about the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, and new technologies in the construction industry. Building Safety Month 2020 encourages appropriate steps everyone can take to ensure the safety of our built environment, and recognizes that the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies has saved lives and protected homes and businesses, and;

WHEREAS, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, New Jersey, does hereby proclaim the month of May 2020 as Building Safety Month and encourage the citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

5. * ***Resolution Authorizing 2020 Carryover Vacation***

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-33

***TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION***

WHEREAS, Section 8.3 of the ***Readington Township Personnel Policies, Practices and Regulations*** permits employees to carry over vacation days of the current year, and

WHEREAS, permission to do so must be granted by the Township Committee, and

WHEREAS, current year vacation days carried over into the subsequent year must be used by March 31, 2020 and

WHEREAS, the following employees have requested carry-over of the vacation time noted:

Resolution #R-2020-33 cont'd:

Vacation Carry-Over 2019		
First Name	Last Name	Carry Over Vacation hrs
JAMES	AYOTTE	12
SCOTT	BABB	34
MICHAEL	BALOGH	56
LISA	BAUM	15
DAVID	BODINE	36
DENISE	CHARLTON	10
SCOTT	CRATER	60
JOSEPH	DAROCHA	12
JOSEPH	DEJESSO	16
CHRISTOPHER	DEWIRE	75
WILLIAM	DUFOSSE	48
CHRISTINE	DEY	7
SETH	DURYEA	8
CARLOS	FERREIRO	48
RICHARD	GOULD	11.5
JOSEPH	GRECO	14
PATRICIA	HALL	28
KENNETH	HULCHER	37
JOHN	INSABELLA	30
SCOTT	JESSEMAN	16
LINDA	KENNEDY	42
KAREN	KONN	73.5
HARLEAN	KUZMIW	14.25
JULIE	KOSAKOWSKI	9
ANN MARIE	LEHBERGER	14
ANTHONY	MADEANO	12
CHRISTINE	MAILLER	35
VITA	MEKOVETZ	16
KARIN	PARKER	8
BENJAMIN	PRZEWOZNY	64
CAROL	RADZIEWICZ	7
STEVEN	RINDOCK	42
ERIC	SANTO	0.25
CHRISTINA	SCHWARTZ	7
MARGARET	SLUTTER	14
JOSEPH	TAILLACQ	16
BRIAN	VANDONGEN	35
JOHN	VURICKIO	16
WADE	WARNER	40
GREGORY	WESTER	12
LAURA	WHITAKER	16.5
ALEXANDER	WRIGHT	36

6. * **Resolution Designating April 28th Pay it Forward Day in Readington Township**

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-34

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the aim of the Pay it Forward concept is to promote community spirit through intentional acts of kindness; and

WHEREAS, the Pay it Forward novel, written by Catherine Ryan Hyde in 2000, has inspired the creation of a movie and a movement that has been vital in inspiring millions of good deeds all over the world; and

WHEREAS, Pay it Forward Day was created in 2007 in Australia to further the altruistic movement of good will; and

WHEREAS, Pay it Forward Day is a worldwide effort being supported by people in more than seventy (70) countries on six (6) continents; and

WHEREAS, Pay it Forward Day encourages people to do good deeds for others without asking for anything in return except for the recipients to pay it forward to others in need; and

WHEREAS, together we can make a difference by creating positive change in our community and world – one good deed at a time; and

WHEREAS, April 28th is designated as Pay it Forward Day aiming to inspire millions of acts of kindness around the world.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Readington Township Committee does hereby proclaim April 28th as **PAY IT FORWARD DAY** in the Township of Readington and urges all its residents to observe this day with activities and acts of kindness that demonstrate and celebrate selfless giving.

7. * **Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 49, Lot 4 (Stanton Reformed Church)**

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Consent Agenda (*with the removal of the Note Sale Bid Results and Payment of Bills*), seconded by Mr. Albanese and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC for items listed on the agenda only

Bob Schoenfeld, Oldwick Road, noted a typo error in the proposed salary ordinance.

Andy Roth, County Road 523, inquired about an attorney for affordable housing listed under Contract Negotiations / Professional Services / Surenian & Associates.

CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION

1. Memorandum dated January 8, 2020 from Lisa Fania, Township Clerk, Township of Raritan regarding *Township of Raritan Housing Element & Fair Share Plan*. No action taken.
2. Letter dated January 15, 2020 from Lauren Lepkoski, Counsel for JCP&L, regarding *the Matter of the Verified Petition of Jersey Central Power & Light Company for Approval of Rate Adjustments Pursuant to the JCP&L Reliability Plus Infrastructure Investment Program*. No action taken.
3. Letter dated January 17, 2020 from Nancy Burgess, Deputy Clerk, Town of Clinton regarding *a Resolution in Support of Securing a Grant to Convert Hunterdon County Polytech to a Full Time Career and Technical School*. No action taken.
4. Letter dated January 23, 2020 dated New Jersey American Water regarding *the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey American Water Company, Inc. for Approval of Increased Tariff Rates and Charges for Water and Wastewater Service and other Tariff Modifications*. No action taken.
5. Memorandum dated January 28, 2020 from Maggie Schmitt, Municipal Clerk, Township of Branchburg regarding *An Ordinance Amending the Land Development Ordinances of the Township of Branchburg by Adding a New "AH-6-Route 202 South Affordable Housing 6" Zone*. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing the Readington Township 2019 Salary Ordinance for Officers and Employees of the Township of Readington*

The following ordinance was offered for introduction:

An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing the Readington Township 2019 Salary Ordinance for Officers and Employees of the Township of Readington

ORDINANCE #02-2020

SECTION 1
GOVERNING BODY AND SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL

MAYOR	per annum	\$1 -	\$9,388
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER	per annum	\$1 -	\$8,522
ADMINISTRATOR/MUNICIPAL CLERK/ DEPUTY REG. OF VITAL STATISTICS/TREASURER/QPA	per annum		\$176,790
ADMINISTRATOR	per annum		\$19,649
Clerk/Deputy Reg. of Vital Stat/Treasurer/...per annum			\$157,141
TAX COLLECTOR/TAX SEARCH OFFICER	per annum.		\$84,684
TAX ASSESSOR..(P/T/24/hrs per wk)	per annum.		\$93,006
CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL/PLUMBING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	per annum.	\$82,400	\$85,000
COURT ADMINISTRATOR	per annum	\$50,000 -	\$65,000
LIBRARIAN	per annum	\$2,024 -	\$54,770
HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR	per annum	\$60,000	\$73,185
CHIEF OF POLICE	per annum		\$149,748
RECREATION DIRECTOR	per annum	\$48,000 -	\$78,637
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	per annum		\$119,764
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & PARKS	per annum		\$120,997

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT, BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & PARKS	per annum	\$110,799
FIRE OFFICIAL	per annum	\$62,730
ZONING OFFICER	per annum	\$66,912
SUPERVISOR OF ADMIN. SERVICES/ REGISTRAR	\$65,628 \$1,200	\$66,828

SECTION 2

CLERICAL (CONFIDENTIAL) & SUPPORT PERSONNEL

RECEPTIONIST	per annum	\$31,998 - \$36,290
SECRETARY TO TWP ADMINISTRATOR\DEPUTY REGISTRAR	per annum	\$34,727 - \$47,037
DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK/SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE SECRETARY (40 hrs/wk)	per annum	\$49,678 - \$69,148
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	per annum	\$36,500 - \$55,000
DEPUTY TREASURER	per annum	\$40,000 - \$62,908
PLANNING BD/BD OF ADJUSTMENT SECRETARY	per annum	\$45,000 - \$65,440
FLOATER/BOARD SECRETARY	per annum	\$40,000 - \$47,571
ASSISTANT RECREATION DIRECTOR	per annum	\$38,000 - \$43,830
CLERK/TRANSCRIBER	per annum	\$35,189 - \$40,000
OFFICE ASSISTANT/FLOATER	per annum	\$28,000 - \$43,000
TECHNICAL ASSISTANT	per annum	\$47,509 - \$52,711
DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR(VACANT)	per annum	\$41,685 - \$55,098

SECTION 4

TECHNICAL PERSONNEL

SUB-CODE OFFICIAL PLUMBING & MECH	per hour	\$30.00 - \$47.40
ELECTRICAL SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	per hour	\$30.00 - \$35.79
BUILDING INSPECTOR	per hour	\$30.00 - \$37.41
FIRE SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	per hour	\$30.00 - \$41.54

SECTION 5

ROAD, UTILITY AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

RATES FOR TITLES HELD LONGER THAN ONE YEAR:

DRIVER – LABORER 6	per hour	\$32.87
SR. DRIVER – LABORER 3	per hour	\$36.03
JR. MECHANIC	per hour	\$30.27
MECHANIC	per hour	\$38.59
SR. MECHANIC	per hour	\$42.36
CREW LEADER	per hour	\$40.95
OPERATOR	per hour	\$38.59
WORKING FOREMAN	per hour	\$44.67
SEWER OPERATORS:		
C-1 LICENSE (HOURLY ADDITIONS)	per hour	\$1.00
C-2 LICENSE (HOURLY ADDITIONS)	per hour	\$1.25

RATES FOR GRADES WITHIN TITLES:

LABORER – 1	per hour	\$22.87
LABORER – 2	per hour	\$23.83
DRIVER-LABORER – 1	per hour	\$24.79
DRIVER – LABORER – 2	per hour	\$25.73
DRIVER – LABORER – 3	per hour	\$26.69
DRIVER – LABORER – 4	per hour	\$27.64
DRIVER – LABORER – 5	per hour	\$28.57
DRIVER – LABORER – 6	per hour	\$29.54

SECTION 6

POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$35.00
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER	per hour	\$23.00	-	\$35.00
RECRUIT	per annum	\$20,000	-	\$43,597
PATROLMAN (FIRST YEAR) Certified/Probationary.	per annum			\$66,140
PATROLMAN (SECOND YEAR)	per annum			\$71,450
PATROLMAN (THIRD YEAR)	per annum			\$76,756
PATROLMAN (FOURTH YEAR)	per annum			\$82,067
PATROLMAN (FIFTH YEAR)	per annum			\$87,372
PATROLMAN (SIXTH YEAR)	per annum			\$91,430
PATROLMAN (SEVENTH YEAR)	per annum			\$97,149
PATROLMAN FIRST CLASS	per annum			\$102,861
CORPORAL	per annum			\$104,922
INVESTIGATOR - OVER GRADE	per annum			\$600
PROBATIONARY SERGEANT	per annum			\$107,714
SERGEANT'S BASE SALARY	per annum			\$113,570
SERGEANT FIRST CLASS	per annum			\$117,037
PROBATIONARY LIEUTENANT	per annum			\$117,537
LIEUTENANT	per annum			\$139,096

SECTION 7

PART-TIME PERSONNEL

MUNICIPAL JUDGE	per annum			\$33,874
SUBSTITUTE MUNICIPAL JUDGE	per hour			\$158.63
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK (20 hrs)	per hour	\$20.00		\$25.00
MUSEUM ADMINISTRATOR	per hour			\$23.15
LIBRARY ASSISTANT	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$19.80
VIOLATIONS CLERK	per hour	\$13.00	-	\$17.89
OFFICE CLERK	per hour	\$15.00	-	\$18.00
RECREATION COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING ASSISTANT	per hour			\$19.23
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR	per annum	\$8,000	-	\$10,455
DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORD.	per annum	\$1,000	-	\$3,500

SECTION 8

SUMMER RECREATION PERSONNEL

SUPERVISOR & ASS'T SUP'V SUMMER PROG	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$25.00
SUMMER PROG. & SPECIAL PROG. COUNSELOR	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$14.00
CONCESSION STAND ATTENDANT	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$11.48
SUMMER PUBLIC FACILITIES MAINT. LABORER	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$15.96

SECTION 9

BUILDINGS, MAINTENANCE AND RECYCLING

PUBLIC FACILITIES MAINTENANCE LABORER INITIAL	per hour			\$22.87
PUBLIC FACILITIES MAINTENANCE LABORER JUNIOR	per hour			\$27.64
PUBLIC FACILITIES MAINTENANCE LABORER SENIOR	per hour			\$29.54
RECYCLING WORKER	per hour	\$11.00	-	\$25.66

SECTION 10

Rates of compensation provided herein are retroactive to January 1, 2020

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

Mr. Albanese	- Aye
Mrs. Fort	- Aye
Mr. Smith	-Aye
Mayor Heller	- Aye

The Public Hearing was scheduled for February 18, 2020 at 7:45 p.m.

2. ***Request to Use Township Roads / Sourland Semi-Classic*** (February 23, 2020)

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Special Events Permit application, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

3. ***Request to Use Township Roads / Rutgers Grand Prix/ECCC Championships***
(April 25, 2020)

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Special Events Permit application, seconded by Mr. Smith with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

4. ***Application for Special Events Permit / Bishops Open Air Market***

A MOTION was made by Mr. Albanese to approve the Special Events Permit application, seconded by Mrs. Fort with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

5. ***Application for Special Events Permit (February 8, 2020) / Hartzler***

A MOTION was made by Mr. Smith to approve the Special Events Permit application contingent upon the Police posting *No Parking* signs on Readington Road, seconded by Mr. Albanese with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

6. ***Application for Special Events Permit / Schaefer Farms Open Air Farm Market***

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Fort to approve the Special Events Permit application, seconded by Mr. Smith with a vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

7. ***Agricultural Advisory Board Membership***

Mayor Heller stated that currently the Agricultural Advisory Board is a three (3) member board and they are looking to add members that potentially can learn the process of the planning incentive grants. Administrator Mekovetz advised that an amended ordinance would need to be drafted for introduction at the next meeting.

8. ***Release of Performance Bond / Magnolia Lane Development (Block 40, Lot 1)***

Engineer O'Brien reported that the work for the concrete sidewalk, driveway aprons and conservation easement marker has been completed and a two (2) year maintenance bond has been posted; therefore, he recommends the release of the performance bond.

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2020-35

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
 RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Ed Nagle did on October 22, 2019 file a written request with the Township of Readington for a release of Cash Performance Guarantee Check #2273629 in the amount of \$19,483.20 for work completed on Block 40, Lot 1; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has confirmed that a certain amount of work has been done on the Magnolia Lane Project on said property; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Municipal Land Use Law the Township may retain up to 30% of a Performance Bond to assure the completion of site work;

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has released the bond amount for Cash Performance Guarantee Check #2273629 as indicated in his memorandum dated based upon the Municipal Land Use Law requirement:

BOND OR CHECK	ORIGINAL BONDED AMOUNT	RECOMMEND REDUCTION FOR WORK COMPLETED	REMAINING PERFORM. GUARANTEE
Check #2273629	\$19,483.20	100%	0
Total	\$19,483.20	100%	0

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that authorization is hereby given to release Cash Performance Guarantee Check #2273629, as recommended by the Township Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that authorization is given to the Township Clerk to forward copies of this Resolution approving these released amounts to the applicant.

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

- Mr. Albanese - Aye
- Mrs. Fort - Aye
- Mr. Smith - Aye
- Mayor Heller - Aye

9. * **Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 39, Lot 55 (Smoot)**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

10. * **Application for Blue Light Permit / Peter Plennert**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

11. * **Resolution Designating May as Building Safety Month**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

12. * **Resolution Authorizing 2020 Carryover Vacation**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

13. * **Resolution Designating April 28th Pay it Forward Day in Readington Township**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

14. * **Release of Board of Health Escrow / Block 49, Lot 4 (Stanton Reformed Church)**

This matter was addressed under the Consent Agenda.

15. **Note Sale Bid Results / \$17,015,000 Bond Anticipation Notes, Series 2020**

\$17,015,000 Bond Anticipation Notes, Series 2020

Note Sale Bid Results

Bidder	Coupon	Premium	NIC	NIC in \$	Rank
TD Securities LLC	1.50%	\$17,270.23	1.1071 %	\$48,662.89	1
Jeffries LLC	1.50%	\$13,443.85	1.1941 %	\$52,489.27	2
Oppenheimer & Co	1.75%	\$17,700.00	1.3473 %	\$59,221.98	3

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Mekovetz stated that she had nothing further to report.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Attorney Dragan stated that she had nothing further to report.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer O’Brien stated that he had nothing further to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

JOHN ALBANESE

Mr. Albanese reported that the Annual 2019 Recreation Report has been prepared.

BETTY ANN FORT

Mrs. Fort reported on the situation at the Bouman Stickney Museum where the pole bringing power to the house broke during a storm.

Mrs. Fort reported that she and Mr. Albanese met with Chief Greco, Jim Curry, County Communications Director, members of the Whitehouse Rescue Squad and the attorney on behalf of Verano to discuss erecting an emergency services tower on a portion of their property.

Mrs. Fort read a letter from Assemblyman Roy Freiman commending Jeanne Vitale on her contributions to the community as a Librarian of the Three Bridges Library.

JONATHAN HELLER

Mayor Heller stated that he had nothing further to report.

BENJAMIN SMITH

Mr. Broten, Dogwood Drive, inquired about a lien redemption payment on the bill list.

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>
CURRENT FUND	0-01	\$ 784,186.82
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	0-02	\$ 97,157.92
CURRENT FUND	9-01	\$ 70,431.55
SEWER APPROPRIATIONS	9-02	\$ 2,061.18
TRUST FUNDS	X-03	\$ 261,610.77
MISC REFUND, COUNTY TAX, LIENS	X-05	\$ 3,015,800.16
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	X-06	\$ 157,182.14
REG & LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	X-07	\$ 2,602,823.00
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS		\$ 6,991,253.54

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

- Mr. Albanese - Aye
- Mrs. Fort - Aye
- Mr. Smith - Aye
- Mayor Heller - Aye

Mr. Smith stated that he is looking forward to working with Administrator Mekovetz and Chief Financial Officer Carro on the 2020 budget.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Scott Scammell, Dreahook Road, announced the passing of Ken Garvey, former Readington Township resident. Mr. Scammell also inquired if there are any occupants yet in the Willows at Readington project.

John Broten, Dogwood Drive, asked for an update to utilize the Solberg debt to retire some older bond issues, the status of the open space access for Silver Bit & Spur farm and the Rosehill Rosedale Cemetery litigation.

Bob Schoenfeld, Oldwick Road, inquired about the dog licensing mailing and the cost effectiveness of the mailing.

Andy Roth, County Road 523, commented on an article he read in the Readington News regarding Redevelopment and asked for some clarification on the process of the developers.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Heller announced that the first Town Hall meeting will be held March 11th at the Three Bridges Fire House at 7:00 p.m.

As there was no further business, *A MOTION* was made by Mr. Smith at 9:08 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Albanese with vote of ayes all, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, *RMC/MMC/QPA*
Municipal Clerk