



TOWNSHIP OF DOWNE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2011 – 7:00 PM

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Official Newspaper and was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and Township website. Mayor Dennis Cook called the meeting to order at approximately 7 pm.

Mayor Cook asked if we could take a moment of silence after the flag salute in remembrance of 911. He continued that in Shanksville today there is a common crypt containing the remains of 40 unidentifiable valiant and brave individuals who were on Flight 93. They have been joined together with other individuals who were identified and brought to the Shanksville Memorial to the Garden on Repose and Secrete Ground. As we remember them lets also remember all of our men and women who we have lost in the armed forces and who we continue to lose each and every day because we know that freedom is not free. I would also like to remember all of our Township Emergency Management Personnel and our First Responders who each and every day volunteer their services. I would like to particularly remember them in two of the emergencies we had just in the last several months in terms of the Palm Sunday Storm as well as Hurricane Irene.

The flag salute was conducted followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of September 11th.

ROLL CALL

Robert Campbell, Committeeperson	Present
Lisa Garrison, Committeeperson	Present
Tammi Reynolds, Committeeperson	Present
Steve Simmerman, Deputy Mayor	Present
Dennis Cook, Mayor	Present

Also present: Mr. John Carr as Solicitor and Richard DeVillasanta, Clerk

SOLICITORS REPORT

Mr. Carr stated he submitted a report last week to the Committee. The report contained information in reference to litigation which is not for public session discussion. The report also contained a draft of correspondence about a dangerous condition on the beach in Fortescue which is something we had considered issuing a letter to the landowner. He welcomes any comments from the Committee and would like authorization to forward the correspondence on behalf of the Township. Also in the report is information following up the special meeting held. A resolution for retaining Mr. Blauer's firm for services as discussed at the Special Meeting is also included. After review, there are no comments on the resolution provided by Mr. Blauer for approval of the Rehabilitation Program. Information was also submitted to keep the Committee up to date on the issues of litigation regarding the Township. In one particular situation a special executive session should be held at the next meeting. Also on the Agenda tonight is the final adoption of the Pay to Play Ordinance (Ordinance 03-2011) which was triggers by the Best Practice Checklist that was issued by the Governor. This is not optional for Municipal entities and therefore proceeding with the adoption is in keeping up with the Governors recommendation. There is also some information included on OPRA requests fees. Once you review the information regarding fees perhaps it may be appropriate to come up with a form for use by the Clerk's Office and the public to anticipate the costs associated. OPRA is a state law and there is nothing we can change about it. All we can do is live with it and in doing that we must keep the public aware they have the ability to review the information and know what to expect. Lastly there is information included on public versus private speech in the committee room including the issuance of pamphlets and campaign literature. There are issues with speaking during the public comments portion of the meetings and speaking during the township business portion of the meeting.

Mayor Cook thanks Mr. Carr and stated his written report is very thorough and comprehensive.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 1, 2011 and January 3, 2011 TOWNSHIP MEETING

Mr. DeVillasanta asked that the Minutes of August 1, 2011 be tabled tonight.

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2011 as submitted.

Mr. Simmerman asked that the minutes of January 3, 2011 be tabled due to the fact that he cannot remember back that far. He would also like to request an audio recording of that meeting.

Motion was made by: Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Reynolds to table the approval of the minutes of January 3, 2011 and August 1, 2011.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion Carried

ORDINANCE(S)

Adoption of Ordinance 03-2011 – An Ordinance Establishing that a Business Entity which makes Political Contributions to Municipal Candidates and Municipal and County Political Parties in Excess of Certain Thresholds Shall Be Limited in its Ability to Receive Public Contracts from the Township of Downe in the County of Cumberland, Contractor Pay to Play Reform Ordinance

Mayor Cook asked Mr. Carr if he would like to make any comments. Mr. Carr stated that the Ordinance was advertised after the introduction and he has received no inquiry. The Ordinance is ready for action by the Committee.

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public for comments on the adoption of Ordinance 03-2011. Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Cerone asked what is meant by Pay to Play.

Mr. Campbell answered this has to do with campaigns and elections and campaign contributions.

Mr. Carr stated the Ordinance is dense and the title is condensed but that is the essence of the Ordinance.

Mr. Cerone stated that Pay to Play covers more than what is stated in the title.

Mr. Campbell stated this Ordinance deals with campaign contributions.

Mr. Cerone stated the Governors Pay to Play Ordinance covers more than just campaign contributions. He understands that Pay to Play covers a lot of areas. For instance an elected official associated with someone who owns a business, if that official calls upon that business to do work within the community he serves in, that would be considered Pay to Play.

Mr. Campbell stated this discussion has nothing to do with the Ordinance being adopted tonight.

Mr. Cerone stated he understands that but maybe this particular Ordinance does not cover enough.

Mr. Carr stated this Ordinance has been circulated through the New Jersey League of Municipalities. We have picked up the Ordinance that has been recommended to us by the Governor and we are acting on it. Is there room for improvements or some other Ordinance that could help with other scenarios, absolutely, this is the complete Ordinance that was recommended to fulfill this requirement under Best Practices.

Mr. Cerone asked what about conflicts of interest and other issues associated with Pay to Play.

Mr. Carr emphasized that this Ordinance is what will make us in compliance with the law and with the Best Practices recommended by the Governor.

Mr. Cerone stated if we adopt this Pay to Play Ordinance then all other issues outlined under the Pay to Play Law are mute in this Township.

Mr. Carr stated absolutely not. The Governor is free to pass law and State Law supersedes Local Law. It would not matter what the Committee does because that is Local Law. The Governor's Law is in charge.

Mr. Cerone stated why we are not adopting the complete Ordinance instead of an abbreviated version of the Governor's Ordinance.

Mr. Carr stated that is in the discretion of the Committee. The Committee is acting on what's been recommended by the Governor's office. We are fulfilling a directive.

Mr. Campbell stated this is a Best Practices requirement regarding election law. Can we move on?

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Motion made by Mr. Campbell to close the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion Carried

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 03-2011. The motion was made by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion Carried

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to open the meeting for public comment on Resolutions R-064-2011 through R-069-2011 and the Bill List. **Motion made by:** Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes

Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Cerone stated there is a bill for preparation of Hurricane Irene for \$20,000 to David Gates, Inc. At the emergency meeting last week Mr. Campbell stated that FEMA would be paying and not the residents. Why are we paying the bill days after that statement was made?

Mr. Campbell stated the money will be reimbursed by FEMA. Mr. Campbell continued he spent time today at a kick-off meeting in Cape May County with representatives from FEMA. We will be reimbursed 75% of everything we spent not just Mr. Gates. Everything related to the storm both pre and post will be reimbursed by FEMA and there is a good chance the State will reimburse the other 25%. All the money spent to protect the beaches, homes, emergency evacuations, equipment and personal property of the residents before and after Hurricane Irene will be reimbursed.

Mayor Cook continued that he and Mr. Campbell met with the Governor last week and the Governor publically announced that the State was picking up the 25%.

Mr. Cerone continued his question is why the bill is being paid in less than thirty days. Doesn't the Township have a thirty day policy like most Municipalities? Mr. Cerone asked what is the standard practice of this Township when paying bills.

Mr. Cook stated in past years we didn't pay our bill properly and most of the time we paid them very late. We are being responsible and paying our bills on time.

Bernie Sayers stated that with Mr. Campbell's comments, it seems like the operative phrase in what he said is it looks like FEMA will pay.

Mr. Campbell retracted the words "looks like" and corrected his statement by repeating FEMA is going to pay 75% of all the pre-storm emergency repairs and post-storm clean up, debris, road repairs and sand removal. Everything we did will be taken care of by FEMA who will reimburse us 75% and the State will reimburse 25%.

Mr. Sayers asked when the money will be received.

Mr. Campbell read the FEMA reporting and claim submittal process.

Jessie Briggs stated when he had his business he charged interest on payments after 30 days. I am sure the businesses that contract with the Township appreciate getting paid on a timely manner.

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting. **Motion made by:** Mr. Campbell to close the public comment on the Resolutions. Motion was seconded by Mr. Simmerman.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell Yes
Tammi Reynolds Yes
Dennis Cook Yes
Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

RESOLUTIONS

R-064-2011 *A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Downe to Enter into Contract with Mark Blauer, an Individual, Trading as Blauer Associates for the Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program*

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to approve Resolution R-064-2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell Yes
Tammi Reynolds Yes
Dennis Cook Yes
Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

R-065-2011 *A Resolution Authorizing the Township of Downe to Apply for and Obtain a Grant from the Department of Community Affairs for the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Program for Approximately \$200,000.00*

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to approve Resolution R-065-2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell Yes
Tammi Reynolds Yes
Dennis Cook Yes
Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

R-066-2011 *A Resolution Adopting the State Model Citizen Participation Plan for Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Housing Program for the Township of Downe*

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to approve Resolution R-066-2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell Yes
Tammi Reynolds Yes
Dennis Cook Yes
Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

R-067-2011 *A Resolution Adopting the Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Policies and Procedures Manual for the Township of Downe*

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to approve Resolution R-067-2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell Yes
Tammi Reynolds Yes
Dennis Cook Yes
Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

R-068-2011 *A Resolution Approving the Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Grant Management Plan for the Township of Downe*

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to approve Resolution R-068-2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell Yes
Tammi Reynolds Yes
Dennis Cook Yes
Lisa Garrison Yes
Steve Simmerman Yes

Motion Carried

R-069-2011 *A Resolution Identifying the Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Fair Housing Officer for the Township of Downe*

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to approve Resolution R-069-2011. Motion seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

OPRA REQUEST POLICY

Mr. Carr stated he is being asked to prepare a simple policy so we are all on board. This policy will be something we can refer to in dealing with OPRA Requests. This will be a help for better expectations when making an OPRA request for the Township employees as well as the public. It will be prepared for the next Township meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mr. Simmerman asked why are we writing checks for the Rescue Squad. We have never done this before. We in the past have given them their \$10,000 contribution and they did their own books and now all of a sudden I am signing for these payments. Can someone explain this situation?

Mrs. Reynolds stated due to the fact the Township was not receiving monthly reports of expenditures for the Rescue account we received a recommendation from our Auditors to get better control of that situation.

Mrs. Garrison stated we cannot pay private non-profits bills.

Mr. Carr stated he would contact our Auditors for direction.

Mr. Simmerman stated if the auditor directs us to do something then we should but we must make sure we follow the legal process. We make the contribution and this may be easier to track the spending of the contribution but we want to make sure we are following the law. Usually we just give them the money and we are done with it. The Township doesn't forward their money in the beginning of the year and it is paid late to the Rescue Squad which causes a hardship to them.

Mr. Carr stated he will contact the auditor for clarification and if there is an issue we will fix it.

Mrs. Garrison stated they have their own incorporation papers, DUNS number, etc. She is not sure if the Auditor realizes that.

Discussion continues on the arrangement/agreement with the Rescue Squad operations and the Township responsibility.

Mr. Upham was asked to speak from the public to bring some light on the situation. He stated at the beginning of the year it was his understanding from the Township that the \$10,000 would be held up. If we needed to purchase items we would give Nadine or Rick a bill and they would write the check from the \$10,000 donation from the Township. This way was easier for the auditor to keep track of what was being spent. Mr. Upham continued when he checked into his account status he was told he had a negative balance. Mr. Upham stated his salary was to be included in the OEM Budget and he has not spent that much money this year.

Mrs. Reynolds stated there may just be some confusion in where purchases are being applied to each line item.

Mr. Upham stated as far as the radio purchase goes, Mr. Simmerman signed the check and then a month later wanted documentation for the purchase. If you want documentation you should ask for it before you sign the check.

Mr. Simmerman stated there was no backup information with the PO at the time it was presented, that's when I asked Nadine for the information. He would like to know what the money is being spent on and why we are handling the Rescue Squads checkbook and we never did this before.

Mr. Upham stated this was a recommendation from the auditor is his understanding. This way when the auditor is ready to audit the books, this information is available to him.

Mrs. Garrison asked if we have the Rescue Squads checkbook.

Mr. DeVillasanta answered no

Mrs. Garrison continued these checks are being written out of our budget line items and that is the question I asked Mr. Carr to get clarification on. A contribution should be forwarded to you and then into your bank account. This process is coming out of a budgeted line item and this is where my question comes from. Are we legally allowed to pay private non-profit corporations bills with Township checks? That is why the contribution was set up.

Discussion continued on the legality of the process of the Rescue Squads purchasing policy.

Mr. Simmerman asked if the payment to Battistini Consulting Services a part of the 75% we are going to be reimbursed or is that something different.

Mrs. Garrison asked that the September bill for RS Shelter be held. You cannot pay a service ahead. We will pay that bill next month at the October meeting at which time we will know that services were provided for the month.

Mrs. Reynolds stated she refused to vote on any payments to RS Shelter.

Mr. Simmerman asked if the pest control contractors are doing the Rescue Squad building also. Is the cleaning service doing the Rescue Squad building also?

Mr. Upham stated they are not cleaning the Rescue Squad building.

Mr. DeVillasanta stated he would contact the cleaning company.

Mrs. Garrison stated we need to hold the September payment to Jani-King Cleaning Services also.

Mayor Cook stated he would like to find someone in the Township willing to do the cleaning services.

Mr. Simmerman asked if it is okay to sign the PO's and pay these bills for the Rescue Squad and continue what we are doing now or hold the bills until we get clarification.

Mr. Carr stated we have conducted business in this manner for 8 months now and he would hate to see these services not paid while we wait for clarification from the auditor.

Mayor Cook suggested that Mr. Simmerman and Mr. DeVillasanta meet to discuss the situation regarding preparing more detailed information on the PO's and insuring all PO's are being charged correctly.

Mrs. Reynolds stated she had planned to meet with Nadine and Rick on Tuesday and would welcome Mr. Simmerman at that time to correct this situation. November is a very critical month in reference to the budget and this meeting is being held in order to get organized for that time.

Mr. Simmerman agreed to the meeting.

Mr. Simmerman asked Mr. DeVillasanta for an explanation if the \$3555.00 payment to Mr. Duffy.

Mr. DeVillasanta stated the payment is so high because of the litigations Mr. Duffy is handling and the review of the applications. His fees are way above the escrow we are holding from the applicants. We have to pay the bills and then attempt to contact the applicants to increase their escrow amount.

Mr. Simmerman stated the PO's state the money is coming from an escrow account when it is money the Township is paying due to litigation.

Mayor Cook asked for a motion to approve the September Bill List *Payment of Bills* with the submitted corrections in the amount of \$212,455.68. Motion made by Mr. Campbell to approve the Bill List with corrections, seconded by Mr. Simmerman.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Simmerman asked if the diesel fuel will be a part of the calculations for the FEMA reimbursement.

Mr. Campbell answered yes. He also stated that he would like to speak to the Committee about his recent FEMA meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

Street Lighting Issue

Mr. Carr stated he has nothing to report.

Mrs. Garrison gave him the name of Ronnie Towns as a contact for the Atlantic City Electric Company. She will get the contact information.

Mr. Campbell stated there are companies contacting homeowners and businesses asking to become their electric supplier. He has been working with one company and received a proposal from that company today. He has not had a chance to review their proposal but would like to distribute it to the Committee and our Solicitor for review and possible discussion at the next meeting. This proposal is for the electric charges only and could cut a third off of our bills.

Mayor Cook stated he certainly appreciates Mr. Campbell's work as we are always looking for ways to cut costs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Cook reported in terms of the Joint Court, we have had a number of meetings and we are attempting to revise the current agreement. Mayor Cook thanked everyone for the help extended to each other during the most recent emergency. There are a lot of tremendous stories in terms of the storm. He would like to applaud everyone and all of the volunteers. All of the reports were on how responsive you were during this time. How neighbor helped neighbor. In the end you really looked out for each other and that is what is most effective. This is no small thing within a community. In the state of New Jersey alone, 1.1 million people we evacuated from the barrier islands and that is a tremendous achievement. Thanks to everyone for cooperating with us and trusting us. Mayor Cook asked Mr. Carr if he would like to comment at this time on making arrangements for the special executive session meeting he spoke about earlier.

Mr. Carr stated he would make every effort to coordinate the meeting with all the parties involved. We will advertise the meeting and tentatively schedule it for October 3, 2011 which is the date of our regular monthly meeting.

Mr. Simmerman stated Emergency Management and the Rescue Squad held their coin drop and collected \$1340. It was very successful.

Mr. Simmerman read the July and August Zoning Officer Report. He stated he will give a more detailed report after the Planning Board meeting scheduled from September 12th.

Mr. Simmerman stated the Recreation Committee had a very good kayak event. There is a Magic Show scheduled for October 15th. Mr. Simmerman stated the Recreation Committee does a great job for the community.

Reynolds read the August Tax Collectors Report. She plans to meet with Rick and Nadine next week about some concerns she has in reference to the Finance Department. She will give a full report next month on the meeting. Mrs. Reynolds stated she attended the last Board of Education meeting and there has been a new law instituted regarding employee fingerprinting. They have asked us to look into surrounding districts on this issue and possibly arrange a one day fingerprinting session for all at our facility. The fingerprint agency is based out of Vineland. All school board members will need a background check and fingerprinting. It is a cost of \$82 per person and must be done on their time. This Vineland agency is not very readily available. School enrollment was very good this year but there are a few areas of concern.

Mrs. Garrison stated she uses an agency that will come to your site and she would get the information to Mrs. Reynolds.

Mrs. Garrison read the Animal Control Report for the month of August. Mrs. Garrison asked Mr. DeVillasanta to forward her a copy of all the Animal Control Reports so she can prepare a summary to present to the Committee.

Mr. Campbell stated he received a notice from Mr. Battistini on request for bids for the paving of Laura and Budney Avenue in Fortescue. There is a pre-application meeting from DEP regarding all of the emergency repairs coming up. There is new legislation on public right of ways and ADA standards. If there is anyone interested in attending these meetings please contact him for information. He received notice about the Annual Waterways Cleanup Day which will be held on Saturday, September 24th sponsored by the Cumberland County Improvement Authority. He has the information on the event and anyone interested should contact him. Mr. Campbell stated that anyone who has damage from Hurricane Irene from August 29th through September 5th can file a claim. Contact Mr. Campbell for more detailed information that is available. Mr. Campbell explained that the Township claim will include everything associated with the emergency situation. Also the volunteer emergency management and rescue personnel will be credited for their time spent. Mr. Campbell stated he is available at anytime for any questions or concerns from the residents.

Mayor Cook thanked Mr. Campbell for all of his hours of time put into organizing the documentation for our FEMA claim submittal.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

There were no committee comments at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE MEETING

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to open the meeting for public comments and seconded by Mr. Simmerman.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion carried

Mr. Miller stated in the newspaper several weeks ago was another property being taken off of the tax rolls. This was brought before the previous administration and he is unsure of the position of the current administration on this issue. Do we have an interest in going to Trenton to protest or whatever about this situation? The State was paying for these lands and now they are cutting back on the amount they are paying. What is the position of this committee?

Mayor Cook stated he is now a member of the legislative committee of the League of Municipalities. He has tentatively sent them a list of areas where we need legislation and other Downe Township issues. You may be aware that the Governor announced that he has signed off on another \$157M to give to the Green Acres program and listed in that article among those areas that could be impacted on future purchases was Downe Township and Nantuxent Creek. On the legislative committee we are really pushing hard to get restored our PILOT funding because we lost one third of that funding last year. This was a tremendous impact on this year's budget. It is very upsetting to hear that the State has money for the Green Acres program. Downe Township has 70% of our land and it is not taxable. We are going to be starting a letter writing campaign again. Your efforts were pivotal in terms of maintaining the remaining two thirds of funding. That two thirds funding is in jeopardy. Mayor Cook continued he is planning to meet with Green Acre representatives to discuss their plans. This problem is not going to go away it is going to get worse. For each property being taken off of the tax rolls in Downe Township, means that you and I will pay more and may have to cut services. This is a very serious threat to our survival. That is my view and my position.

Kathy Ryan asked if Mayor Cook's comments could be formulated into a statement along with contact information for our State Representatives and have it placed in the Post Office so that everyone can have the information needed to act.

Mayor Cook stated that is an excellent suggestion. He would personally do that and also have it available on our website.

Karen Smith stated we should prepare legislation that would prohibit them from continuing to purchase property in Downe Township if they are not properly maintaining existing property owned. This issue was addressed at a previous meeting and it is understood that Mr. Carr is proceeding with some type of correspondence. Secondly, Mrs. Smith stated there was some discussion previously about property purchase for vacant ground within the township. We were going to identify those properties and discuss how best to handle them and there were some offers on the table. There was nothing mentioned about that this evening. Thirdly, wasn't there an issue with the Animal Shelter we were using regarding whether he was an employee or a contractor and possible double dipping. There were some things that were going to be addressed at a later date.

Mrs. Garrison stated she doesn't believe there is a resolution to the situation yet.

Mrs. Smith asked if we were doing anything to resolve it or are we just continuing to pay the bill.

Mrs. Garrison stated the shelter bills are paid because they are contractual. It is the employee issue that needs a resolution. It has been discussed about the IRS making a determination and I don't know the status of that determination.

Mr. Carr stated we are somewhat limited to discussion in the public session as this is an employee of the Township. Mr. Carr stated in answer to Mrs. Smith comment regarding the vacant property, there is a report in the Committee packet addressing that issue. He is waiting for the Committees authorization to proceed.

Discussion continued about the issues the Township faces with property owners who are not maintaining their bulkheads. Some residents currently maintain their bulkheads but their neighbors do not which causes more hardships on the Township with having to do repeated repairs on the Township property because of property owners who do not. Mr. Carr stated the Township needs to coordinate with the private property owners in the community to discuss the options available for repairs through the SBA and FEMA.

Mayor Cook stated he is aware that we have contacted the county about the bridges in the area, let's look at reaching out to these agencies and the Natural Lands Trust for assistance with these issues.

Mrs. Garrison stated the letter Mr. Carr has prepared is a very good first step in resolving these issues. Then a meeting should be organized to further discuss the situation. The letter is very explicit about the problems, the impact and also contains photos.

Mr. Carr stated with the Committee permission he could forward the letter and also add that we would like to facilitate a meeting of all parties.

There was no objection to forwarding Mr. Carr's correspondence on behalf of the Committee.

Mark Blauer stated he would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to submit the application for the Small Cities Rehabilitation Program this month. Mr. Blauer continued he would like to encourage everyone in the audience who might be interested in applying for the rehabilitation program that they obtain a copy of the application from the Clerk's Office. We address the applications in the order in which they are received.

Mrs. Garrison asked if the requirements for applying could be made available on the Township website.

Mr. Blauer stated Mr. DeVillasanta has the documents available and they could be posted on the website.

Mr. Simmerman thanked Mr. Blauer for his quick response to his call in assistance for a residence.

Dave Raudenbush stated he was approached about a piece of vacant property that was coming up for sale. Is there a list available of the properties that we are preparing to sell?

Mr. Carr responded we are working on a complete list and this information will be discussed at a later public meeting.

Mr. Raudenbush asked about the street lighting situation in Fortescue. Has there been any action on this situation. Secondly, he would like to know if there has been any activity on the solar project at the landfill site.

Mr. Campbell stated the latest on the landfill and solar project is the township sent a letter to the DEP about a month ago requesting they change our monitoring well readings from four times a year to once a year. We expect a letter granting our request. This will save approximately \$4500.00 a year. We are also working with the engineer to do an updated closure plan for the landfill. Once these things are done, we need to meet and put together an RFQ/RFP to developers who want to come in and give us a solar proposal. We are not that far yet and part of the reason is because the HECR market has crashed. People who planned solar projects financed them based on the fact that they would earn X amount of dollars on the credits they would earn.

Discussion continued on the way the market has crashed. How there are a number of people now in jeopardy with their financing. Many conversations are being heard about projects that have now been put on a back burner all over the State of New Jersey. There is hope that the market may change again around September 2012 so everyone is in a wait period. Discussion also included possible legislation that could be passed to change the current regulations.

Mr. Cerone passed out some information he had prepared which included a statement from Kennedy Concrete for the blocks that were placed on Money Island and Gandy's Beach. Back in May we asked if there were any copies of bills and Mr. Mayor you stated there were no bills. From the statement, you can see the first bill was received in April. It is dated for April 25th from the company and received here on the 26th. How that statement could be received in 24 hours. Did this come through the mail? The interested thing is we did a little investigative research on bin blocks. The bin block that we were billed for on the invoice is \$100 each. Rick at Kennedy Concrete gave me a quote of \$80 each. During my investigation of other companies with bin blocks, there is a competitor in this area who has a stock of bin blocks that can be delivered in 24 hours or less. Fred from RE Pierson stated an 8 foot bin block, same dimensions as the blocks that were purchased by Mr. Campbell are only \$40 each. We paid 125% more, why?

Discussion continued between Mr. Cerone and Mr. Campbell about the purchase on these blocks.

Mr. Carr asked Mr. Cerone to finish his comment.

Mr. Cerone stated the blocks were not designed for the purpose they were used for on Money Island and Gandy Beach.

Mark Upham stated he would like to thank everyone that evacuated for Hurricane Irene. He worked all weekend and Mr. Campbell stepped up to the plate and he appreciates that. Mr. Campbell please keep up the good work you are doing for the community. I don't live on Money Island, Gandy's Beach or Fortescue but, I don't care what it costs, you saved houses and you saved property and did what had to be done. Keep up the good work. If there are people who are unhappy with Mr. Campbell, there is an election in November and I didn't see anybody's name on the ballot that is complaining about the money that has been spent. If you want to complain, run for Township Committee and straighten things out.

Mr. Campbell thanked Mr. Upham for the kind words.

Bernie Sayers stated about 1 week ago he OPRA requested a copy of whatever agreement existed between the Township and Rescue Squad because of discussions with people and from what took place. The comment on the request sounds like there is no agreement with the Rescue Squad. Is that correct?

Mrs. Garrison stated there is a resolution passed each year to appoint them as the Township's EMS.

Mr. Sayers stated he needs one to address the issue of the \$10,000. Address the issue of who is paying what? There is no agreement. Is Mr. Carr going to be working on this agreement for you because there certainly should be an agreement with the Rescue Squad?

Mayor Cook stated he is learning for the first time that there is no agreement and Mr. Sayers's suggestion is excellent. We will begin working on a written agreement after all of these years.

Mr. Sayers asked Mr. Campbell to explain how he got the assurance that FEMA and the State would be paying 100% of our disaster expenses.

Mr. Campbell stated for sure the 75% is expected and there are a number of claim categories that we fit into for the 25% the State has approved.

Mr. Sayers asked how we are assured of this reimbursement. Has a contract been signed or something.

Mr. Campbell stated on Thursday morning he and Mayor Cook went to Princeton to meet with the Governors Cabinet. The Governor made a 30 minute speech regarding the storm and how he intended to pay that 25%. FEMA representatives were there and they stated they were covering the disaster event. Today at the Cape Atlantic Community College there was a FEMA kick-off meeting to discuss the FEMA payment process. Discussions at the meeting concluded we would be paid for the work we did during the pre-storm and post-storm preparations. Everything we did, we did according to a State Office of Emergency Management directive.

Mr. Sayers stated his question is how we are going to get paid and when are we going to get paid.

Mr. Campbell stated money spent on the pre-storm and up to 6 months after the storm we can bill and it is reimbursable. In between, if we submit our claim to FEMA it is possible that we will receive 50% of the money within 6 months.

Mr. Sayers stated in reference to street lighting, it has been probably three month since he mentioned to Mayor Cook there is a light out at Sharp Lane. It is still out. Why not get it fixed since you are paying for it. It is the fourth light in, just before you get to the intersection to make a right turn at the convenience center. While you are at it, why not take the two lights in the convenience center and the very last light and put them somewhere else where they are more meaningful. Mr. Campbell made a comment two months ago that we can't do that because the property has been broken into. Obviously the lights aren't doing any good.

Mr. Sayers asked for the purpose of the Executive Session that was previously discussed.

Mayor Cook stated the Executive Session it to discuss the Township litigation.

Mr. Cerone asked if the Township owns or ever owned any kind of solar equipment at any time.

Mr. Campbell answered no.

Jesse Briggs asked about the barrow in front of the sink hole on the road to Money Island which has been there for months. This is an accident waiting to happen.

Mr. Campbell stated when the Public Works department was doing repairs in that area, he was going to fix it and he checked with the County and apparently there is a metal pipe under the road there that has collapsed and needs more extensive repair. There are two or three issues within the County that I will be discussing with them in the next few months.

Mr. Briggs commented for accounting purposes maybe the Township should write a check to the Rescue Squad for the dollar amount of the donation and then the Rescue Squad cuts their own checks.

Mr. Cerone asked in reference to the Executive Session for the next meeting, what case will be discussed.

Mr. Carr stated information will be disposed after the Executive Session if necessary.

Mimi Marlor stated she would like the Committee to consider instituting what most municipalities have which is a 5 minute limit rule about speaking. We need to consider this in this township.

Motion made by: Mr. Campbell to close the public portion of the meeting and seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

Roll Call:

Robert Campbell	Yes
Tammi Reynolds	Yes
Dennis Cook	Yes
Lisa Garrison	Yes
Steve Simmerman	Yes

Motion carried

Mayor Cook thanked everyone for coming out and asked that they continue.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Reynolds and unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Richard DeVillasanta, Clerk