

## TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – MARCH 10, 2014

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: J. Randy Bishop, Eric J. Houghtaling, Mary Beth Jahn, Kevin B. McMillan and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Township Administrator; Michael J. Bascom, Chief Financial Officer; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in the Asbury Park Press on January 2, 2014 and The Coaster on January 3, 2014, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk.

The following items were discussed in open session:

Mr. Bascom stated that the 2014 municipal budget will be ready for introduction at the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. He will provide a presentation at that time. The budget is currently at a four cent increase which was much higher but the numbers have been tightened in many areas. The increase is largely due to debt from Sandy, the revaluation and overall debt service. The overall operating budget is relatively the same as last year. There was a slight reduction in total assessed value in the Township. \$5.1 million in emergency debt was issued due to Sandy and \$2.8 million of that amount has been paid back. The Township will be paying off the balance over the next five years. The tax collection rate remained the same. There will not be another uptick in debt service in future years. The Township's bond rating was recently raised to double A which is only one level below the top rating.

The Mayor asked for if all of the FEMA money was received. Mr. Bascom stated that all of the paperwork is complete. Some of the items are still going through FEMA review and as funds are received from FEMA, it will go directly to paying down the debt. Mr. Bishop asked if more surplus could be used. Mr. Bascom replied that we must maintain stability and provide for the regeneration of surplus; therefore, we cannot use anymore surplus than already shown in the budget. Mr. Houghtaling asked how the Township can get back to a two cent increase in 2015. Mr. Bascom stated maximize revenues, stabilize the debt and realize savings from employee retirements. The Committee really needs to be careful in the amount of debt issued this year. Mr. McMillan asked about the effect of the snowy winter on the budget. Mr. Bascom stated that an additional \$100,000 is appropriated due to the amount of salt needed because of the frequency of the storms. Mr. Bascom stated that the liability for accumulated sick leave will go down moving forward because of changes in the state law that caps the value at \$15,000 for new employees at retirement. Ms. Jahn asked potential changes with the tax levy cap. Mr. Bascom stated that the levy cap is not going away and it severely hampers the Committee's ability to grow services.

The Committee reviewed correspondence from the Prosecutor's Office regarding electronic communication between elected officials and its applicability to the Open Public Meetings Act. Mr. Anthony cautioned the Committee members about a running conversation via e-mail that is copied to more than two Committee members or discussing topics that would be discussed in executive session. Also, e-mails can be part of discovery. Mr. Bishop stated that the Planning Board Attorney raised this topic at the last Planning Board meeting. If there are deliberations between members or with a professional, it can be used in a lawsuit.

Mr. Gadaleta stated that he reviewed the existing ordinance regarding the removal of snow from sidewalks and saw that there is no summons mechanism, only a provision for a lien. He prepared a draft amendment which removes the lien provisions and adds a penalty if a sidewalk is not cleared within 12 hours after first daylight. The Mayor asked about applicability to senior citizens because it is difficult for them to clear their walks and sometimes plows push snow back on the sidewalks on their second pass down the street. He would rather come up with a way to assist rather than penalize. Mr. Bishop stated this would be hard to enforce and is not the best use of staff. Ms. Jahn stated that children being forced to walk in the street is not good. She suggested a referral service for snow shovels through the Economic Development Corporation. The Mayor indicated that he liked the idea of a referral service. Mr. Anthony stated that many towns have a similar ordinance and is a bad idea to include exceptions. The Committee cannot be selective and the requirements of the ordinance must be uniform. Mr. Bishop stated that he will meet with Bill Doolittle and Mr. Gadaleta for further discussion.

Mr. Gadaleta stated that the Committee has had discussions about various ways to manage projects in the Township. One option is to enter into Memorandum of Understandings with various labor unions to provide part-time employees at prevailing wage to work on municipal projects.

These employees would be hired with the special skill set need and the Township would be responsible for workers compensation and unemployment insurance. Mr. Houghtaling stated that one down side would be that the Township would have to act as General Contractor for the projects. Mr. Anthony stated that he prepared agreements for review by the Committee. The Committee indicated that they would provide Mr. Gadaleta with a list of unions for which they want agreements.

Mr. McMillan stated that plans for Neptune Day are progressing. Mr. Gadaleta stated that there is a question about whether or not to allow vendors selling products. Mr. Houghtaling stated that we got away from the original theme which was representation by all of the community organizations. The Committee indicated that no used (flea market type) items will be allowed.

Mr. McMillan asked for a status on the township wide storm water management review. Mr. Gadaleta stated that he is working with the Township Engineer. Mr. Gadaleta will follow-up on the installation of signs for the new no parking ordinance on a portion of West Lake Avenue. Ms. Jahn stated that there are occasions when a car carrier is blocking the road at M&E Motors on West Lake and Highway 35. They supposedly made arrangements to use the parking lot at Living Word Church. Mr. Gadaleta will check with the Police Department.

#### AUTHORIZE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mr. McMillan offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Bishop, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, as follows:

1. The Public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.

2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Litigation – Update on pending litigation  
Personnel – Housing Authority vacancies  
Personnel – Vacant Driver position

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matters will be made public when matters are resolved.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

The Committee entered executive session for discussion on closed session matters.

The Mayor will contact several potential candidates for the Housing Authority and report back at the next meeting.

Mr. Gadaleta recommended Rammel Wilson for the vacant Driver's position. He was interviewed during the last round when two Drivers were hired and one of the two decided not to accept the offer of employment.

The Committee returned to the Meeting Room for the regular portion of the meeting.

Mayor Brantley called the meeting to order and requested the Clerk to call the roll. The following members were present: J. Randy Bishop, Eric J. Houghtaling, Mary Beth Jahn, Kevin B. McMillan, and Mayor Michael Brantley.

Also present at the dais were Richard J. Cuttrell, Municipal Clerk; Vito D. Gadaleta, Township Administrator; Michael J. Bascom, Chief Financial Officer; and Gene Anthony, Township Attorney.

After a moment of Silent Prayer and the Flag Salute, the Mayor asked the Clerk to indicate the fire exits.

The Clerk stated, "Fire exits are located in the rear of the room and to my right. In case of fire you will be notified by bell and or public address system, then proceed to the nearest smoke-free exit"

Mayor Brantley announced that the notice requirements of R.S. 10:4-18 for an "Annual Notice" have been satisfied by the publication of the required advertisement in the Asbury Park Press on January 2, 2014 and The Coaster on January 3, 2014, posting the notice on the Board in the Municipal Complex, and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk. In addition, the meeting agenda, resolutions and ordinances are posted online at [www.neptunetownship.org](http://www.neptunetownship.org).

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Houghtaling offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Jahn, to approve the minutes of the meetings held on January 13<sup>th</sup>, January 27<sup>th</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup>. All were in favor, except Mr. Bishop abstained on the meetings of February 10<sup>th</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Houghtaling abstained on the meeting of February 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### RECOGNITION OF RETIRING TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEE

The Mayor and Committee recognized Thomas Reilly who retired from the Public Works Department after 21 years of service.

#### REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk stated that the following reports and communications are on file in his office:

Notice of public hearing on amendments to the zoning map of the Township of Wall.

Senior Center monthly statistics for February.

Rosemary Gray sent letters of thanks to the following individuals and groups for recent donations to the Senior Center: Regina & Thomas Donohue, Nicholas Napolitano, Diane Olsen, Christine & Mack Owens, Catholic Men for Jesus Christ, Wegmans, Shop-Rite, Velma Waterman, Michele D'Amato, Edgar Halpin, Anne Sibole and Patricia Normington.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE DAIS

Eric Houghtaling stated he went to a Monmouth County Parks meeting regarding the Shark River dredging. At that time they thought they would have positive results and they had a very good feeling that night at the meeting. He stated he would talk about the good stuff and let Mr. Bishop talk about the bad. They were disappointed for the Township of Neptune. He went on to state that a positive meeting was held with the North Jersey Planning Authority regarding the widening of Route 66. They were instructed not to use the word widening and that it was a bottleneck problem. The state recognizes the problem and has done some research and identified some problems there. He was informed that they were on a list and things were happening. Afterwards he felt that things could be moving forward. He also attended the Ocean Grove Homeowner's meeting in February. He specifically wanted to talk about cars not moving during snow emergencies. They also discussed cooperation from neighbor to neighbor. If vehicles are not moved we cannot plow, so we must move those vehicles. He attended various meetings with Veterans Post regarding the park they are planning on building. All three posts are on board to bring this to life. We are having a fundraiser on March 27, 2014 and it is \$20.00. We will be selling bricks and have urged everyone to help. He also attended meetings on Memorial Day Parade and was a part of the Belmar St. Patrick's Day parade. He also attended Dr. Suess Day at the library and he has also discussed doing a 5k fundraiser for Pancreatic Cancer. He is hoping to hold this fundraiser in Neptune.

Randy Bishop stated he was not here for the February Meetings due to his attendance at the County meetings as they looked at the potential for using a site at Shark River Park for dewatering the dredge/silt material. They were making great progress and then they were informed by the State that the cost of doing this and utilizing the site would be over that which was budgeted. Mr. Bishop thanked Freeholder Arnone and Senator Beck for urging the state to see what they could do so that they did not go through the process and then find out that it's not feasible. This has been quite a set back. He assured the public that they would figure out a way to do the dredging. This particular site use is off the table and no longer under consideration. He stated the Veterans Memorial Park was moving forward and urged everyone to attend the Wine

and Cheese Fundraiser. He also stated the Joint Parade Committee was coming along and no taxpayer money would go into the scholarship that would be given. The prospective candidate would have to be an ROTC participant and was interested in pursuing a higher education. They are looking at giving \$500. He also stated he participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Belmar and he read Green Eggs and Ham to a group of younger children.

Kevin McMillan stated he also participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in both Belmar and Asbury Park. He also participated in Neptune Community Day and stated we will have our Neptune Day on September 20, 2014. They are also getting involvement from the Food Bank as September is Hunger Awareness month, so there will be cages for people to make food donations. He stated he also attended a community meeting that was held at St. Stephens AME Zion Church. They had a lot of different entities from Asbury Park to look at ways to uplift West Lake Avenue. He stated he was there to represent Neptune and that Asbury asked him to do a business survey to see what the hiring needs were for young people.

Mary Beth Jahn stated she heard the Belmar Parade was fun. She also stated she has been working with Mr. Bascom on the budget and she's tried to figure out what was coming in and what was going out. She also ran into Freeholder Arnone and they spoke regarding the desilting of Shark River Park. He was very disappointed that particular opinion did not work out. He remained committed just as Mr. Bishop and Mr. Houghtaling were to find a solution. She went on to state that she interfaced with the President and Vice President of MURC this weekend regarding a number of issues and they had a number of resolutions.

Kevin McMillan stated this past weekend they held their biddy basketball game and next week they will have their playoffs.

Mayor Brantley stated February has been a very busy month for him. On February 25<sup>th</sup> he met with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority about the widening of Route 66. The meeting was very productive. The previous Administrations have actively tried to get the widening done. He stated this was a high priority and they were recognizing it. The money has been put in place to do a study and can take up to 36 months. The project can only be done if the state funds I, and they will be asking them to do so. He also stated they were on the top of the list, and were a priority. On February 26<sup>th</sup> he was the guest speaker for Asbury Park black history celebration. It was an enjoyable program. On February 28<sup>th</sup>, Second Baptist Church had a black history forum which he attended and it was wonderful. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, he attended the ministerial alliance in Asbury Park. Both he and the Mayor of Asbury Park were there. They discussed what was needed in Asbury Park. He attended the Read Across America day that was held at the Library. He went over the outstanding projects.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS

The Mayor requested public comments regarding resolutions presented on this agenda and they were as follows:

Dorothy Argyros commented on resolution #14-159. She stated she was opposed to paying counsel for former Police Chief Robert Adams. She stated she felt that all types of discrimination took place against the women involved. She requested her money back if Mr. Adams was found guilty. She also stated she did not want to be a financial supporter of this.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 14-12 - APPROVED

Mr. Bishop offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Ms. Jahn, that it be approved:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 14-12

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SIDEWALK AND ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT ON NEPTUNE BOULEVARD AND OTHER IDENTIFIED LOCATIONS, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR (INCLUDING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142,000) AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$150,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The ordinance was approved on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-13 - APPROVED

Mr. Houghtaling offered the following ordinance, moved and seconded by Mr. Bishop, that it be approved:

ORDINANCE NO. 14-13

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF VETERANS PARK, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEPTUNE, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ON TOWNSHIP OWNED PROPERTY; APPROPRIATING \$800,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$760,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

The ordinance was approved on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye, adding that this will be a great addition to Neptune; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

Mr. Cuttrell stated that the Public Hearings on Ordinances 14-12 and 14-13 will be held on Monday, March 24, 2014.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Bishop offered the following resolutions of the Consent Agenda, moved and seconded by Ms. Jahn, that they be adopted:

APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF TAXI MEDALLION LICENSE NO. 001

WHEREAS, Ed Booker is the owner of Neptune Township Taxi Medallion No. 001; and,

WHEREAS, he has notified the Taxi License Coordinator of the intent to sell and transfer ownership of said medallion to Ibrahim Abdo-Abdelwahed; and,

WHEREAS, the Taxi License Coordinator has certified that all requirements of transfer have been satisfied,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that approval is hereby granted for the transfer of Taxi Medallion License No. 001 to Ibrahim Abdo-Abdelwahed; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Taxi License Coordinator and Municipal Clerk.

APPOINT MEMBER TO THE NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP HOUSING AUTHORITY

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby appoints Edward Green to the Neptune Township Housing Authority for a five year term expiring March 31, 2019; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Neptune Township Housing Authority.

AMEND RESOLUTION 14-79 APPROVING SELECTION OF LEGAL COUNSEL TO REPRESENT FORMER POLICE CHIEF ROBERT ADAMS IN LAWSUIT

WHEREAS, in the matter of Gonzalez/Savage vs. Neptune Township et als., former Police Chief, Robert Adams, has requested that Stacey D. Adams, Esq., serve as legal counsel as to all claims for which former Police Chief, Robert Adams, is allowed private representation under his contract; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreements, the Township Committee must approve the selection of counsel; and,

WHEREAS, a Resolution was passed on January 13, 2014 under Resolution No. 14-79, which allowed for the selection of Stacey D. Adams, Esq., to serve as legal counsel for Punitive Damages only, at the hourly rate of the Township Attorney; and,

WHEREAS, former Police Chief Robert Adams' contract with the Township raises issues as

to the aforesaid limitations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, that approval is hereby granted to former Police Chief, Robert Adams, to retain Stacey D. Adams, Esq., of the law firm of Littler, Mendelson, P.C., One Newark Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102, as legal counsel for all claims permitted by his former contract with the Township of Neptune at an hourly rate of \$150.00 per hour; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of the Resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistance Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Chief of Police of Neptune Township and former Police Chief, Robert Adams.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JAMES HUNT AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has received a letter from James Hunt resigning as a member of the Housing Authority effective February 25, 2014,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the resignation of James Hunt as a member of the Housing Authority is hereby accepted effective February 25, 2014; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Neptune Township Housing Authority.

AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE CREATION OF THE FIRST STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN

WHEREAS, the Township is partnering with the Neptune Township Housing Authority to create the First Street Community Garden; and,

WHEREAS, The Gannett Foundation provides Community Action Grants for various community based projects; and,

WHEREAS, the Township and Housing Authority desire to submit a grant application to the Gannett Foundation in the amount of \$5,000.00 for materials to assist in the above project,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune hereby authorizes the submission of a grant application in partnership with the Neptune Township Housing Authority to The Gannett Foundation in the amount of \$5,000.00 (no match required) for materials to assist in the creation of the First Street Community Garden; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Community Programs Coordinator, Grants Coordinator, Chief Financial Officer and Neptune Township Housing Authority.

ACCEPT A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE AND RELEASE A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FILED BY NEIL TOBIAS FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT HAIR CITY AT ROUTE 66 AND ROBIN ROAD

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2013, Neil Tobias submitted a cash performance guarantee in the amount of \$49,200.00 guaranteeing site improvements for Hair City at Route 66 and Robin Road (Block 1007, Lot 33); and,

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has certified that all site improvements have been completed in a satisfactory manner as of March 6, 2014 and said performance guarantee can be released; and,

WHEREAS, Neil Tobias has authorized the retention of \$7,380.00 in cash guarantee to serve as a Maintenance Guarantee to guarantee said site improvements for a period of two years,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Maintenance Guarantee as stated above be and is hereby accepted and the cash performance guarantee is authorized to be released; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cash portion of the performance guarantee in the amount of \$41,820.00 on escrow with the Township be and is hereby authorized to be refunded; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Developer and Township Engineer.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF CHRISTINE NESHEIWAT AS A SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has received a letter from Christine Nesheiwat resigning as a Special Law Enforcement Officer – Class I in the Police Department effective February 26, 2014,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the resignation of Christine Nesheiwat as a Special Law Enforcement Officer – Class I in the Police Department is hereby accepted effective February 26, 2014; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Human Resources and Deputy Chief of Police.

AUTHORIZE THE CANCELLATION OF SEWER RENT (304 MICHELLLE COURT)

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has requested the cancellation of sewer rent to the property listed below,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and hereby is authorized to cancel Sewer Rent as stated herein; and,

<b>BLOCK/LOT</b>	<b>ASSESSED TO</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
8000/31	Sumit Ganguly	304 Michelle Ct.	2014	450.00

**REASON:** Building demolished

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector, Assistant C.F.O. and Auditor.

AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH JSAS HEALTH CARE, INC. FOR ADULT SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES TO TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, JSAS Health Care, Inc. is a non-profit corporation, licensed and approved by the New Jersey Department of Health to provide ambulatory care services to substance abusers of all ages, on-site at its principal offices at 685 Neptune Blvd., Suite 101, Neptune, New Jersey or off-site in an approved and confidential setting, and,

WHEREAS, the Township desires to make available to its residents, a full range of substance abuse services, at no "out of pocket" cost to any individual resident and the Township will make available up to fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000) in 2014 budgeted funds to pay for these services; and,

WHEREAS, JSAS Health Care, Inc. agrees to continue providing its services if the amount of the Township appropriation is exhausted; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided for the first three months of 2014 in the 2014 Temporary Budget and funds for the balance of 2014 will be provided in the budget for the year 2014, when finally adopted, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the Mayor and Clerk be and are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with JSAS Health Care, Inc., to provide substance abuse services to Township residents for the year of 2014 at an amount not to exceed \$14,000.00; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution and the agreement be forwarded to the Drug Alliance Coordinator, JSAS Health Care, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O. and Business Administrator.

The resolutions of the Consent Agenda were approved on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

AWARD BID FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF A PORTION OF OCEAN GROVE BOARDWALK

Mr. McMillan offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Bishop, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2014, the Township Engineer received bids for the award of a contract for the reconstruction of a portion of the Ocean Grove boardwalk destroyed by Hurricane Sandy; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were reviewed by the Township Engineer and Engineering Consultant who has recommended that the bid be awarded to the lowest bid submitted by Epic Management, Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, said bids were advertised, received and awarded in a "fair and open" competitive bidding process in accordance with the Open Public Contracts Law; and,

WHEREAS, funds for this purpose will be provided in Ordinance No. 14-09 and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that a contract be awarded to Epic Management, Inc. on their lowest responsible bid of \$1,135,570.00 for the base and alternate bid for the reconstruction of a portion of the Ocean Grove boardwalk; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., Township Engineer, Leon S. Avakian, Inc., and Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

#### EMPLOY DRIVER IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ON A PROBATIONARY BASIS

Mr. McMillan offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Ms. Jahn, that it be adopted:

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2014, the Township Committee adopted Resolution #14-152 which employed Kevin Neal as a Driver in the Public Works Department; and,

WHEREAS, Kevin Neal has since declined the position causing a vacancy in the position of Driver; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Works Director and Business Administrator have made their recommendation to hire an individual from the candidates that were interviewed and tested during the round of hirings for the Driver position in February; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be provided for the first three months of 2014 in the 2014 Temporary Budget and funds for the balance of 2014 will be provided in the Budget for the year 2014, when finally adopted, and the Chief Financial Officer has so certified in writing,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that Romell Wilson be and is hereby employed as a Driver in the Department of Public Works, at an annual salary of \$28,000.00, on a probationary basis for a period of not less than 90 days and not exceeding one year, pending favorable results of the required physical, effective March 11, 2014; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Chief Financial Officer, Assistant C.F.O., AFSCME Local #1844, Director of Public Works and Human Resources.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye; and Brantley, aye.

#### AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Ms. Jahn offered the following resolution, moved and seconded by Mr. Bishop, that it be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Neptune that the

following bills be paid if properly certified:

CURRENT FUND	430,927.08
FEDERAL & STATE GRANT FUND	14,190.94
TRUST OTHER	150,482.02
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND	254,735.64
SEWER OPERATING FUND	23,771.03
MARINA OPERATING FUND	2,602.47
MARINA CAPITAL FUND	2,300.00
DOG TRUST	102.60
LIBRARY TRUST	1,345.30
BILL LIST TOTAL	\$880,457.08

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Assistant C.F.O.

The resolution was adopted on the following vote: Bishop, aye; Houghtaling, aye; Jahn, aye; McMillan, aye, except abstain on Purchase Order No, 16575; and Brantley, aye.

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jack Breden, 94 ½ Heck Avenue, stated the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment agenda and rules of order were of an unauthorized technique concocted years ago. He stated he previously expressed his concerns that the boards were discriminating against the residents by giving them a five minute limitation. Applicants with attorneys are given different privileges and it gives an advantage to a developer. He felt everyone should have equal rights before the board and questioned whether anyone cared.

Roger Wencik, 507 South Riverside Drive, stated that he agreed with the DEP that the dredging idea near Remsen Mills Road was not economically feasible and suggested the Township re-approach Wall along with Congressman Pallone and Chris Smith to help. He felt the perfect spot was on the Wall side. It could be trucked up onto Marconi Road. He felt this was definitely a positive approach.

Mr. Houghtaling stated there was a shellfish problem at that location.

Mr. Bishop stated they would lay everything out in detail and the DEP would have to tell them no.

Jim Granelli, 113 Highland Avenue, stated people were moving out of New Jersey faster than they were coming in. He reported on the census rentals in Neptune and questioned the need for additional apartments. He also discussed dredging and questioned whether there were other drying sites. He asked whether they planned on dewatering it or drying it out.

Mr. Bishop stated they were virtually the same thing and totaling drying is not what it's called. You have to dewater it and provide a body so that the water can go back to where it came. He stated they believe there are other sites but they must go through the process.

Kennedy Buckley, 65 Broadway stated the HPC does allow the public to make a statement. He went on to state that towing vehicles has worked, and all it took was a few towings and they got the message. He stated he appreciated everyone who facilitated it. He stated he was happy to hear Mr. Bascom say the budget would be restrained this year and that our rating is double A. In his area the seniors get help with shoveling their sidewalks but he noticed as he was driving around Ocean Grove that half the sidewalks were still covered with snow. The south side doesn't get much sun and doesn't get shoveled. He questioned whether the Township could hire specials to hand out summonses. He felt the sidewalk must be done even if it meant giving them fines. He went on to question if the Warrington was converted to a hotel would it have an affect on the negotiations of the North End project.

Mr. Bishop stated it was a hotel.

Gene Anthony stated he didn't see why it would change the plan because the plan is the plan.

Linda Rice, 1304 ½ 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated she moved here two and a half years ago and on Saturday she received a phone call at work from her daughter stating she heard gun shots. Her daughter went to Mr. Pensabenes home. When she arrived home her daughter told her that a bullet came through the home while sitting in the living room. She felt something had to be done at the park and the store near the park. She's afraid and so were her children. She stated there was loitering all over the place and urged the Committee to do something. She stated she moved to Neptune to be closer to her job at the hospital and did not move from Matawan to become a victim in Neptune.

Mayor Brantley stated they got the message and they understood. He stated they've been hearing a lot about this type of thing throughout the Township and the police were working hard on it. He stated he wasn't aware of how the police were dealing with the Cove but they were working hard to deal with these incidents. He questioned Mr. Bascom in reference to the Cove.

Mr. Bascom stated he could not comment too much on the Police Department's tactics but assured them that the area was a matter of concern to them and they were looking at more advanced tactics in that area.

Mary Beth Jahn stated she lives on Eighth Avenue and since she's moved there it is her wish to close the Cove down. She stated she doesn't even walk in the park because it's the Wild West.

Mayor Brantley stated they would be addressing it.

Dorothy Argyros stated she was happy that Shark River Park will not be ruined by contaminated dredge. She stated she was told by a green acres enforcement official that it should not be called dredge material but dredge spoils because it's filled with fecal coli form which attracts disease causing bacteria. She stated she has both draft plans and they both have from 4-7 different alternative plans. She stated Wall's plans were the best because they were going to put it where there were very few homes. Unlike Shark River Park which is in the middle of West Neptune. She stated that Wall Township said "no way" and they correctly represented their people but Neptune said "bring us your coli form." She questioned why the Township did this and asked whether someone was paid off. She went on to state that she was happy the State said no in defense of the health, safety and welfare of Neptune's residents.

Edward Robinson stated he was a concerned homeowner of the Bradley Park area and he sent an email to the Committee on Saturday. He felt there was a growing problem in that area. He observed a large crowd of people at the park. So he called the police and he never received confirmation that they were sending someone out. He even asked for a patrol. The criminals are moving from Asbury and are on the rise and moving into Neptune. They feel comfortable coming into Neptune and that is a concern to him. He stated he was a registered voter and that was the power he had to ensure that those who were in power did what they had to do and help them. He stated they were afraid and was not sure the police were equipped to handle this. They're not sure of the police presence in the area. He felt this problem should be taken care of immediately and if it wasn't he would remember it at the polls.

Mayor Brantley stated he did not agree with his statement that they were not concerned because he was and they have had this problem for a while and they were dealing with it in a lot of ways. From time to time we've had the Deputy Chief meet with a group of people and talk about some of the things they can talk about. Mr. Bascom stated there were tactics that were being used or will be used that they cannot talk about. He suggested having the Deputy Chief and Police Commissioner meet with a group of residents in that area and tell them what we can't.

Mr. Houghtaling stated what they need to know is, if people have called the police and haven't gotten a response and if that is the case they have a real problem. They need to know that so that they could get it straightened out. He assured him that they would get the park back to the way it needs to be.

Mary Beth Jahn stated she lives in that area also and as a former Police Commissioner she knew that every police officer had the skills and fire power necessary to deal with the situation. She felt they had to get a handle on this.

Mr. Bascom stated the quality of life team is in that area often and have made a number of arrests. He assured them that he would look into what happened during the time frame in

question.

Jack Pensebene 1306 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue stated it was a shame that Linda Rice might move because she is a great person. He felt it was time to change ideas and do more because the bullets could have gone through a window and killed his wife. He felt they needed police there constantly. There also needs to be marked vehicles because unmarked cars were not working. He felt their priorities were not right and he did not feel safe. There have been three gunfights since he's lived in his home. He stated the police were magnificent but there's still a breakdown with dispatch. He asked for a police substation and to have the police constantly patrol the area.

Gail Cleriki, 1515 Cherry Lane, stated there were things the schoolhouse developers never finished with her home and now she's having problems with the insulation and air ducts. She's emailed them but have not heard from them.

Mayor Brantley stated they would look into that.

Hank Coakley, Valley Road, questioned who had jurisdiction over the sign at Marconi Road and Brighton Avenue because it was hard to see around it. He knew that it was on Wall's side but questioned if Neptune could do something about it.

Mr. Gadaleta stated the signs were put up by the gas company. He will reach out to the gas company to have them removed because they've been up for long enough.

Mr. Coakley stated he condemns the DEP for making the decision not to dredge. He also stated he was not happy with Mr. Pallone, Mr. Booker, Mr. Melendez and Mr. Obama for not ordering to have salt shipped to New Jersey. He stated he would not put titles to their names because he felt they did a disservice to the residents of New Jersey.

Heinz Weck stated he was not happy to hear about the shootings. He commended the Road Department for taking care of the potholes on Central Avenue. He questioned whether Route 66 would get five lanes.

Roger Eichenour addressed the committee and read a prepared letter regarding his appointment on the Board of Adjustment. He felt he was being punished and black listed because he opposed the dredge project. He stated he was re-appointed to the lowest position possible and now he can not vote and can no longer be appointed chairman as he once was. He stated he refused to be punished and handed in his resignation .

Mr. Bishop offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Jahn, to adjourn. All were in favor.

Richard J. Cuttrel,  
Municipal Clerk