

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 16, 2014

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Oscovitch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6.

ROLL CALL

Councilwoman Raffay, here; Councilman Gray, here; Councilman Olson, here; Councilwoman Kash, here; Mayor Oscovitch, here. Township Manager Joe Sabatini, Attorney Tom Collins and Municipal Clerk Doris Flynn were also present.

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilman Gray, to go into executive session and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Byram, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matters:

- a. Attorney Client Privilege Information
 - General
 - PSE&G
- b. Contract Negotiations
 - Shared Services – Court
 - Position of Tax Collector
- c. Personnel – Construction Department – Vehicle Use Policy

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be kept on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on September 16, 2014.

Doris Flynn, Municipal Clerk

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd		x			
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to return to open session at 7:35 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

FLAG SALUTE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash, to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Raffay asked to have Resolution No. 142-2014 removed from the consent agenda. The motion was amended. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

Manager’s Report

Byram Day – September 27 - Byram Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 27 at Waterloo Village from 11:00 AM to 5 p.m. (rain date, Sunday, September 28).

FY 2015 State Aid Program: The Township received notice announcing the process for applying for the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) FY 2015 State Aid program. Joe Sabatini is working with the Township Engineer to submit application for Phase 1 of Amity Road resurfacing program

2015 Health Benefit Assessment: The NJHIF agenda includes the 2015 proposed budget. It appears Byram's 2015 Health Benefits increase is proposed at 7.23%. The SHBP is facing an average of 8.9% for 2015.

Route 206 Update – Joe Sabatini has reached out 3 times to the NJDOT for a response to his letter, but as of the start of the meeting, no response was sent.

Brush Recycling - Brush can be brought to the Byram Township Recycling Center on the following designated dates: September 24th& 27th 2014 October 1st,4th,8th & 11th 2014

Councilman Olson

- Met with Eileen Swan regarding the conservation easement project. They are now working on public outreach.
- Attended the EDAC meeting on September 11 and summarized for the Council the highlights of the meeting. The Council will schedule a joint meeting with the EDAC in the middle or end of October.
- Met with Joe and the PSE&G representatives with regard to the restoration work done at the tower sites.
- Attended the September Historical Society meeting. Bob Dennis will be coming to the December meeting to talk about railroads.
- Will be attending the 9 a.m. superfund tour with Congressman Frelinghuysen on September 22.
- The next Board of Health meeting is on September 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Councilman Gray

- The Environmental Commission discussed their plans for Byram Day at their last meeting. They will be sharing a table with the Board of Health.

Councilwoman Kash

- The next Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for September 17 at 7:30 p.m.
- The Byram Board of Education meeting will be on September 24.

Councilwoman Raffay

- Marie Raffay announced that the FOWV will be holding the Harvest Moon Festival on October 9th. Tickets are available at Sunnyside or from Marie Raffay. Tickets are \$70/couple until September 25—after that date the price will go up.
- Lenape Valley Board of Education meeting is scheduled for tonight. Lenape is celebrating their 40th year anniversary on November 1, with a buffet dinner – tickets are available through the school.
- Planning Board meeting is on September 18th at 8 p.m.

Attorney Tom Collins updated the Council on what was happening at the Highlands Council with regard to the Regional Master Plan Reexamination.

Mayor Oscovitch

- The Mayor reported that Byram lost a fireman this past week. Rich Choate passed away on September 8, 2014. He was a wonderful man, who volunteered on the Fire Department for many, many years—he will be missed. Memorial services will be held at the Fire Department on Saturday, September 20th at 2 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION I –Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to open to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried. No comments were made.

Luann Byrne, 34 Richmond Road, asked a few questions about the proposed rate increase to health care costs for Byram Township. She also asked about the resolution for debt that was on the agenda. Joe stated that it is a process that we go through each year to renew existing debt.

Joe Sabatini summarized his meeting the PSE&G representatives. Cory Stoner will document everything in a report. The Manager will working with PSE&G to resolve all issues.

Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay to close to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 2, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes –Motion by Councilman Olson second by Councilwoman Kash to adopt the minutes as presented.

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

- September 2, 2014 Executive Meeting Minutes –Motion by Councilman Olson second by Councilwoman Kash to adopt the minutes as presented.

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

APPOINTMENTS – Planning Board Members Michael Walsh and Robert Chozick – retroactive to 7/1/2014 – 12/31/2014 – Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to grant a 6 month extension to Mr. Walsh and Mr. Chozick’s term to December 31, 2014.

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

CONSENT AGENDA: These items are considered to be routine by the Members of the Township Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a citizen or Council member so requests in which event the item may be removed from the general order of business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash, to approve the consent agenda.

- Resolution No. 134-2014 – Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Bond Anticipation Notes not to exceed \$1,727,500
- Resolution No. 135-2014 – Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Special Emergency Notes not to exceed \$60,000
- Resolution No. 136-2014 – Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Service Maintenance Contracts from LINK Communications, Ltd. For the Video Software and Hardware for the Twp. of Byram Police Dept.
- Resolution No. 137-2014 – Resolution to Renew Membership in the North Jersey Municipal Employee Health Benefits Fund
- Resolution No. 138-2014 – Resolution of the Township of Byram Authorizing a 2014 Tax Sale – November 18, 2014, 9:30 a.m.
- Resolution No. 139-2014 – Resolution to Award a Contract to N.J. Fence & Guardrail, Inc. in the amount of \$7,200.00 for Outfield Fencing Upgrades at C.O. Johnson Park
- Resolution No. 140-2014 - Resolution to Award a Contract to A-Better Fence Co., Inc. in the amount of \$11,656.00 for Wood Beam Guide Rail at C.O. Johnson Park
- Resolution No. 141-2014 – Resolution Appointing Linda Ann Roth as Interim Certified Tax Collector in Accordance with the Shared Service Agreement Between the Township of Byram and the Town of Newton

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RESOLUTION NO. 142-2014 - Resolution Authorizing the Township of Byram to Sign an Agreement with Jeffrey A. Miller Catering Company to Hold Byram day at Waterloo Village. Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to approve the resolution.

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd				x	
Yes		x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain	x				
Absent					

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 BILL LIST

Motion by Councilman Gray second by Councilwoman Kash, to approve the bill list as presented.

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion		x			
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Proclamations – Jim Oscovitch asked to have this on the agenda. The Council discussed putting a form on the website so that people could fill out for an act of kindness or special recognition and submit it with some background information. The Council could do proclamations or give recognition. Nisha Kash will ask the Recreation Committee if they have some framework for recognition from prior years. The Mayor will touch base with Joe Sedivy and prepare a proclamation for Mrs. Sedivy.
- Highlands Grant – Joe asked that the Council to entertain a motion to send a letter under the Mayor’s signature. A sustainable economic development plan would be very beneficial to Byram. It would be a great tool for the EDAC. We are requesting that the Highlands Council reallocate a portion of the \$50,000 for this purpose. There is a cost proposal totaling \$35,000, which would be for outreach, market analysis and feasibility assessment, a draft plan, implementation matrix and timeline and hold public hearings. Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to send the letter. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.
- Holiday Lights – At the last EDAC meeting, they voted to recommend that the Township give their best effort to put up holiday lights this year. Joe stated that we will have to reinstall the brackets, which would take at least 3 days. We would need to rent a lift truck, have a police officer present, and close lanes to install the brackets. Marie Raffay would like to know what the charge will be going forward. There are approximately 24 lights. Joe will put together a cost analysis on this.
- Route 206 – Congressman Frelinghuysen wrote a letter on Byram’s behalf regarding the Route 206 improvements. Congressman Frelinghuysen received a letter back from the NJDOT that basically was a non-response. Marie Raffay commented on a positive note that a person in a wheel chair was able to get from her house to Quick Check on her own. The gateway treatment at Byram Shoprite now has Byram Township on it, which really looks great.
- Committee Head Meeting – Tuesday, October 28th – 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION II

Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to open to the public for discussion. All members were in favor. Motion carried. Kevin Tevis, 11 Beech Street, stated that the cross walk indicator on Acorn Street is not functional. Joe will look into it. He asked what was happening next to the bagel shop. Joe stated there is going to be a small strip mall with apartments on the second floor. The economy is slowing the development of the site. Skip Danielson, 18 Hunter Lane, said that the NJDOT was working on the fire access point. Skip asked about the sidewalk on the northbound side of Route 206. The Council said that it was taken out of the plan many years ago. Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay to close to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash, to go into executive session at 8:45 p.m. and adopt the below resolution.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 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.

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BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Certification: I certify that the Byram Township Council adopted the above resolution on September 16, 2014.

Doris Flynn, Municipal Clerk

	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Gray	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Kash	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion			x		
2nd				x	
Yes	x	x	x	x	x
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash to return to open session at 9:15 p.m. All members were in favor. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

On the motion of Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Kash, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Doris Flynn, Municipal Clerk

James Oscovitch, Mayor