

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

July 23, 2008

This is a regular meeting of the Mansfield Township Committee. The notice requirements of the law have been satisfied for this meeting by notice to the Star-Gazette and the Express Times of the time, date and location thereof. Notice was also posted on the announcement board located in the Municipal Building.

Roll Call: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, and Mayor Nerbak

Salute to the flag was done by all.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Baldwin made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 25, 2008, which was seconded by Mrs. Oakley.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 9, 2008, which was seconded by Mr. Jewell.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Mr. Baldwin made a motion to approve the bill list and addendum with one correction to one of the bills that was for gas and was listed for delivery to the Port Murray Tanks and should have been listed as a delivery to the Route 57 tanks, which was seconded by Mrs. Oakley.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

DISCUSSION FOR COAH:

Mr. Baldwin introduced Bill Hotz to the Township Committee and explained that Mr. Hotz was one of the gentlemen that he was working with on the COAH obligations that the township is required to fulfill.

Mr. Baldwin also stated that Mr. Layton, Township Planner, is present to speak to us about the Township obligations for COAH.

Mr. Layton began by explaining that the Townships obligation at this point was 59 and after the recalculation by COAH that number went up to 121.

CFO REPORT:

Mr. Coppola stated that the tax rate was received from the County and that there is a resolution on the agenda for tonight to extend the grace period until August 25, 2008. There was an increase of 10 cents per \$100 valuation. The county increased 5.5 tax points, Warren Hills decreased .5 tax points, Mansfield Township Elementary increased 1.5 tax points and the municipal tax increased 3.5 tax points. Mr. Coppola also stated that he gave a copy of the overtime report, the monthly budget, and the midyear budget report to the Township Committee in their packets. Mr. Coppola explained that at this point last year we had spent 55% of the budget and that this year we are at 54% of the budget right now.

CLERKS REPORT:

Ms. Hrebenak stated that she has a raffle application for Mansfield Township Fire Company that needs to be approved by the Township Committee.

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the raffle application, which was seconded by Mr. Watters.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Nerbak stated that she had received a complaint from someone that lived in one of the apartment complexes within Mansfield that in May when the temperature dropped the apartments did not turn the heat on. Mayor Nerbak had asked Mr. Kobert, Esq. to research whether there was anything that the township can do for the resident and Mr. Kobert, Esq. sent a response back to the Township Committee stating that the regulations are set by state law, but if the Township Committee wished to they could pass an ordinance that required a longer time period than the state law and that is something that the Township Committee could consider.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Mr. Mace stated that the Natural Stone issue has been resolved as of now and there is a preconstruction meeting scheduled and the permit is going to be issued.

Mr. Mace also stated that Washington Auto is almost in compliance.

Mr. Mace explained that his office is working on the temporary signs within the commercial area of the township.

Mr. Mace stated that the applications for Blau Road and Washburn Roads were filed with the NJDOT.

Mr. Mace stated that the Planning Board authorized My Love Cleaners for a temporary trailer for a period for one year.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Nadie Hill, Main Street, asked how it is that the COAH median is set.

James Bensco asked for name of the person who was that was sitting up with the Township Committee.

Mayor Nerbak introduced Mr. Howard Vex to Mr. Bensco.

RESOLUTION:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-70

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES AND COMPENSATION FOR THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH SALARIES AND COMPENSATION.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

The salaries per annum of rates of compensation of the following officers and employees of the Township of Mansfield are determined for the period below to be as follows:

Deputy Tax Collector	\$1,500 from July 21 to Dec. 31
Alternate Deputy Tax Collector	\$1,000 from July 21 to Dec. 31
Planning Board Clerk	\$15,245 from April 1 to Dec. 31
Court Security	\$115 per session

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that salaries are to be paid in accordance with Salary Ordinance – Ordinance 2008-12, which was adopted by Mansfield Township Committee on July 23, 2008.

Mr. Baldwin made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-70, which was seconded by Mrs. Oakley.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-71

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-85 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may, at the request of, or with the consent of, the governing body of any county or municipality, make such correction of the title, text or amount of any appropriation appearing in the budgets as may be necessary to make said item of appropriation available for the purpose or purposes required for the needs of any county or municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Mansfield has combined the functions of its Zoning Board of Adjustment with those of its Planning Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40 A:4-85, the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to make the following corrections to the budget of the year 2008

From:		To:	
Planning Board S&W	\$ 8,639.00	Planning Board S&W	\$10,672.00
Planning Board OE	\$12,405.00	Planning Board OE	\$15,405.00
Zoning Board S&W	\$ 6,606.00	Zoning Board S&W	\$ 4,573.00
Zoning Board OE	\$ 8,200.00	Zoning Board OE	\$ 5,200.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing correction is, in the opinion of the governing body, warranted and authorized by the statute above referred to, and is necessary for the orderly operation of the Township of Mansfield for the reasons hereinafter set forth: to reflect the consolidation of its land use boards.

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-71, which was seconded by Mr. Watters.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION 2008-72

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE OFF SITE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE OF EDEN MANSFIELD, LLC FOR THE WALGREENS SITE PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Engineer having approved the release of the Off Site Performance Guarantee to Eden Mansfield, LLC, the Township Clerk of the Township of Mansfield is hereby directed to return the original Bond No 5015814 issued by Bond Safeguard Insurance Company to Eden Mansfield, LLC.

Mr. Jewell made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-72, which was seconded by Mr. Baldwin.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION 2008-73

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, WARREN COUNTY URGING THE NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE MUNICIPAL REVENUE RESTORATION ACT OF 2008

WHEREAS, all New Jersey businesses pay local taxes on their real property, the New Jersey personal property tax is paid by a handful of petroleum refineries and only three local exchange telecommunications companies- Verizon, Embarq, and Warwick Valley- that provide 51% or more of the telephone/voice service in a particular community; and

WHEREAS, due to increased competition and strained market conditions, the cost of communications property has steadily declined over the years and is no longer a stable tax base that New Jersey municipalities can depend on; and

WHEREAS, fewer providers are meeting the 51% threshold, causing municipal revenues collectively to experience an aggregate loss of \$440 million since 1997; and

WHEREAS, estimates project at least 50 New Jersey municipalities will lose their personal property tax funding by 2009, a number that could grow to 150 within the next year; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Revenue Restoration Act proposes to replace the current funding system with an expanding sales tax, already applicable to telecommunications services and digital goods sold by communications companies, by simply including video services; and

WHEREAS, this approach would ensure that all video service providers within a market that offer the same "product" are taxed at the same rate; and

WHEREAS, the proposal would reverse the declining tax revenue trend by replacing current laws with an equitable and stable funding system tied to the growing use of video services in our state; and

WHEREAS, municipalities and their residents have a significant special interest in preserving a steady and stable funding source;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Mansfield urge the New Jersey League of Municipalities and New Jersey Conference of Mayors to endorse the Municipal Revenue Restoration Act of 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Mansfield urge the New Jersey Legislature, in the strongest possible manner, to support and enact the Municipal Revenue Restoration Act of 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be certified and forwarded to Governor Jon S. Corzine, Senate President Richard Codey, House Speaker Joseph Roberts, Senate Majority Leader Shirley Turner, House Majority Leader Bonnie Watson Coleman, Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean, House Minority Leader AlexDeCroce, members of the legislature's Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee, the New Jersey League of Municipalities, and the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

Mr. Watters made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-73, which was seconded by Mr. Baldwin.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolution 2008-74

RESOLUTION TO CANCEL GENERAL CAPITAL RESERVE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD,
COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, there exists a General Capital Reserve on the balance sheet of the General Capital Account Fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund creating this reserve has been investigated and it has been determined that this reserve is not needed any longer and should be canceled;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, that the following reserve in the amount of \$10,000.00 be and the same are hereby canceled to surplus

Reserve for:
Improvements to Public Buildings - \$10,000.00

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-74, which was seconded by Mr. Watters.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

2008-75
Resolution
Cancellation of Small Balances

WHEREAS, the following properties have outstanding overpayments in amounts under \$5.00 from previous years, and;

WHEREAS, the township has adopted a resolution for the cancellation of small balances, under \$5.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Committee of the Township of Mansfield this 23rd day of July, 2008, that the Tax Collector is hereby authorized to cancel the following small balances and adjust the tax records accordingly.

Year	Block	Lot	Owner	Amount
2003	203	10	Freund, Michael & Linda	\$0.01
2003	1105	23	Teets, Dennis & Jennifer	\$0.50
2003	1306	2Q	Morgan, John & Christine	\$0.35
2006	1105	23	Hoffman, John & Mary	\$0.05

Mr. Baldwin made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-75, and was seconded by Mrs. Oakley.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Absent: None

2008-76

EXTEND GRACE PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF TAX

WHEREAS, the 2008 final and 2009 preliminary tax bills will be mailed out beyond the June 14, 2008 statutory date, NJSA 54:4-64 as a result of a delay in obtaining the Municipal Tax Rate, and

WHEREAS, the law of 1994 known as A179 requires a minimum of a twenty –five day payment period for either estimated or final tax bills.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mansfield Township Committee this 23rd day of July 2008, that the grace period allowed for payment of the August 1, 2008 tax quarter be extended to August 25, 2008 and any payment received after said date will be charged interest from the original August 1, 2008 due date.

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-76, which was seconded by Mr. Watters.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION 2008-77

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE RESTORATION BOND OF FUJIYAMA RESTURANT

BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Engineer having approved the release of the Cash Portion of the Restoration Bond from Fujiyama Restaurant the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Mansfield is hereby directed to return the cash portion of the restoration bond to the Fujiyama Restaurant.

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the passage of Resolution 2008-77, which was seconded by Mr. Baldwin.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

ORDINANCE:

SECOND READING

Mayor Nerbak opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2008-12, seeing that there were no comments the public hearing was closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-12

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND DETERMINE THE SALARY RANGE AND COMPENSATION FOR THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH SALARIES AND COMPENSATION.				

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Mansfield, County of Warren State of New Jersey as follows:				

SECTION 1. The salaries per annum of rates of compensation of the following officers and employees of the Township of Mansfield are determined to be as follows:

Alternate Deputy Tax Collector		\$1,000	-	\$2,750
Deputy Tax Collector		\$1,500	-	\$31,453
Planning Board Clerk		\$13,500	-	\$16,500
Court Security		\$75 per session	-	\$125 per session

Mr. Baldwin made a motion to approve the passage of Ordinance 2008-12 and requested that the results be advertised, which was seconded by Mrs. Oakley.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak
 Nays: None
 Abstain: None
 Absent: None

Mayor Nerbak opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2008-13,

Doug Wright, Komar Road, asked where would people park to fish.

Mr. Mace stated that there would still be parking on the other side of the street.

Mayor Nerbak asked if there were any other comments, seeing that there were no comments the public hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2008-13

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, ARTICLE 7-7 "PARKING" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, of the Township of Mansfield, Warren County, New Jersey as follows:

Chapter VII, Traffic, of the Code of the Township of Mansfield, Warren County, New Jersey is amended to read as follows:

Section 1: Chapter VII, Article 7-7.4 Parking Prohibited:

NO PARKING ZONE:

From the intersection of Penwell Road (Mansfield Township) and Penwell Road (Lebanon Township) east, along the south (Musconetcong River side) of Penwell Road to the end of the pavement.

Section 2: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval of the Department of Transportation of the State of New Jersey, if required, and publication as provided by law.

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve the passage of Ordinance 2008-13 and requested that the results be advertised, which was seconded by Mr. Jewell.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Watters, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Jewell, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Nerbak introduced Diane Margolin, Recreation Commission to explain what the money is going to be spent on for the park recreation trails.

Diane Margolin gave a presentation about the park and what it is that the recreation commission has planned for the park property.

Diane explained that the property was purchased by the township in 2002 and that work began on the planning of the park in 2003. In 2004 the Recreation Commission sent a survey out asking what interests people had for things within the park and after the results of the survey were all back the Commission members met to decide which of the survey interests should be considered.

Diane explained that in planning the surface for the trails they tried to choose something that would be low maintenance, low cost, and environmentally safe material.

Mr. Baldwin stated that he was told that the surface of the trails was $\frac{3}{4}$ " stone and that he spoke to the design engineer and the planned top surface will be 2" of either stone dust or very fine DGA.

Someone in the audience asked if Cross Country skiing is possible.

Diane answered that Cross Country skiing is possible and that the farm roads may be used also.

Mr. Baldwin stated that at the Planning Board meeting someone had stated that there is no more funding for farmland preservation in the county or the state which is inaccurate. There is money available except that there is a farm within Mansfield that is not able to receive funding through farmland preservation which is the old Fritz farm which has a 99 year dedicated deed so the state and county would not preserve a farm that is already preserved.

Ms. Nerbak stated she spoke with David Dech, Warren County Planning Department and that he explained to her that there are a number of walking trails within the county but they are not well marked the County is trying to have mapping available. Mayor Nerbak explained that Mr. Dech felt that our trails would tie in nicely with the county trails and would also tie in to the counties master plan and the health plan that they are working on.

Nadie Hill, 207 Main Street, stated that the park property abuts her property that she has owned for 40 years and that she assumed that the township would create a buffer between the properties so that the park would not impact her business. She stated that she currently has issues with theft from her property and that without a buffer it would be much easier for people to access the back portion of her property. She also stated that from looking at the plans there is no buffer planned between the two properties. She also stated that this project will be much too costly in the future for maintenance.

Harvey Reese, asked with the economy the way it is now does this project have to be done with Point Mountain across Route 57.

Glenn Todd, Washburn Road, asked if it was ever considered that there could be endangered species on this property and stated that the open space funding is supposed to cover more than just recreation.

James Bensco, Country Meadow Road, asked if we should hold the land for speculation until the property values go up. He felt that this was a good investment for the children's futures and that the 2 Boy Scout troops and 1 Cub Scout pack could make good use of this property. He also asked if we could propose a gradual development.

Teri Johnson, Port Murray Road, stated that she lives by the park property and that in the morning she sees many people enjoying the park walking their dogs, walking, and running. She stated that she would like to see the trails built.

Barbara Curto, stated that would be a great place for families and thought that it would be nice to be able to enjoy something here in our township.

David Misner, Cynthia Drive, stated that he is a teacher in Mt. Olive and that he coaches baseball in Mansfield Twp, he believes that in order to have places for family and recreation activities there will be growing pains, but that we should embrace the priceless value before us.

Mike Curto asked where it is that is considered the township center where the residents can congregate as a whole. He stated that he is looking for more community activities.

Mrs. Oakley stated that there is no place other than the school if it is available.

Mr. Baldwin stated that this is the reason for the purchase of this property.

Janis Accardi asked Mr. Baldwin if there is a problem with the trail surface is this something that would be negotiable. She believes that the Township Committee should consider the walking path because this is more than an isolated trail it will be a place for families and she thinks that it will enrich our town.

Sandra Reese, 11 year resident of the township, stated that there are already too many problems for the police to cover all of them. She asked who will protect the children seeing as the police department cannot handle what they have now.

Diane Margolin stated that the Recreation Commission has asked the police department what they can do to make the park safe and easy to patrol.

Helga Simmons, 42 year resident of Diamond Hill, stated that the township recreation does not sponsor baseball or traveling softball. She also stated that everyone has big dreams and wants something for kids but the taxes in the township just keep rising.

Diane Cecere, Cherry Tree Bend resident and Recreation Secretary, stated that the concern is not only for the organized sports but also for the boy and girl scouts, garden clubs, science clubs, nature clubs activities. She is a 16 year resident of the town with 4 kids. The older kids are going over to Meadow Breeze Park in Washington because we have nothing in the township for that age to do.

Lee Burrows, 1 year resident in the town with two children under the age of 5, stated that we need to have something for the future and that he looks forward to bringing his kids to the park.

Doug Wright, 9 Komar Road, stated that he has 23 years municipal experience and was a past cub master and scout master in Mansfield Township. He also stated that kids are the future and that we need to support our future and that it is time to do something about it.

Kathie Todd, Environmental Commission, stated that the ¾" stone base will not be good for anyone. Also that she is a fan of passive exercise and that she encourages recreation. She offered to maintain a butterfly garden at the new park. She questioned with 11% of the school being handicapped why is nothing being included at the park for them.

Mrs. Oakley stated that we are trying to incorporate things for handicapped and that the Recreation Commission is waiting for information from Parsippany about the handicapped accessible items.

Kathie Todd went on to say that \$450,000 is a lot to spend for walking trails and that there was a petition that was circulated and that 9 people were interested in farm preservation and that 53 people were against the walking trail. She also stated that there is a track at the school and also a track at Kensington. Ms. Todd asked if a horse trail is considered.

Diane Margolin stated that there will be a horse trail included.

Kathie Todd asked Mayor Nerbak why she stated that there would not be a horse trail purposed.

Mayor Nerbak stated that at the open space meeting she was incorrect and that there is a horse trail purposed for the recreation property.

Harvey Reese, stated that the Meadow Breeze Committee was the same as the towns.

Kathie Todd asked if we could do a Shared Services for park services.

Sandra Reese stated that she was at Meadow Breeze on Monday and that there was no one there from 3 to 5 pm.

Mike Curto Jr. stated that he has been a resident with his parents in Mansfield Township and that he is almost 20 years old and will be looking for somewhere to raise a family and that the location has activities for children over the age of 12. He feels that the park would be a great addition to the township.

James Besco asked that with the concerns about the crushed stone on the trails couldn't the trail just be beaten dirt like it is at some of the other parks which would be something that we could do ourselves.

Diane Margolin state that we can negotiate the surface of the trails, but that it will have to be DEP compliant.

Paul Goddard, Jackson Valley Road, stated that he is totally for the park and but that he knows that the price will be pretty hefty and that the taxes have more than doubled since 2005 it is about \$8,000 per child per year and it is getting to the point that he can't afford it anymore. He believes that the upkeep of the park will be extremely costly.

Mike Curto asked how much this will raise the taxes.

Mr. Baldwin stated that the walking trail will not add a lot of maintenance compared to the park on the whole.

Diane Margolin stated that the Recreation Commission will be applying for grants to reapply the money back to the open space account.

Kathie Todd stated that she attended the Planning Board meeting on Monday and the members of the Planning Board voted against the spending of this money for the trails.

Mayor Nerbak asked if there were any of the Recreation Commission members present to give a presentation of the plan so that everyone could ask any questions that they had.

Kathie Todd stated that there was not.

Mayor Nerbak stated then this was a bias decision on the Planning Board's part.

Kathie Todd agreed that this was a bias decision.

Kathie Todd then asked if the letters were sent out to the unattending members from the Open Space Committee.

Mayor Nerbak explained that this is the public hearing for the money that is intended to be spent for the park trails and that her question could be addressed at a later time in the meeting.

Mike Curto asked isn't this what the property was purchased for?

Bill Accardi asked about the open space tax.

Mayor Nerbak asked if there were any other questions from the public, seeing as there was not the public hearing was closed at 9:35pm.

Mayor Nerbak then asked each of the Township Committee members to give their comments.

Mrs. Oakley stated that she has 3 kids and that 2 of them went to private school so she was paying taxes and tuition she agreed that the taxes continue to rise, but she believes that the park is a good idea for the future and that she wished that the park had been built years ago.

Mr. Watters stated that the bottom line he believes that to earmark \$450,000 for the park after there has already been \$450,000 spent this year alone from the open space account if this is done there will be no money left in the account. The farmland preservation money that the county and the state offer can be

supplemented by the township to sweeten the deal for the farmer. There are still a couple of farms that could possibly be preserved the Reidel farm and also the Jankowski farm has 45 acres. We spend 150,000 to 200,000 per year to maintain the property that we do now.

Mr. Baldwin stated that he did his homework and there was \$54,500 was given to the churches for restorations, and in December the contract for the design of park \$315,000 was approved by this committee with a motion by Mrs. Oakley and a second by Mr. Watters and all of the committee was in favor of the contract agreement.

Mr. Jewell stated that he believed that \$450,000 is a large amount to be spent on walking trails with all of the items that are to be included in the park he stated that he is having a hard time with spending so much on just the walking trails. Mr. Jewell stated that we should be spending the money on other improvements within the park.

Mr. Watters stated that even the State Assembly Representatives believe that this is a large amount to be setting aside for this project. Mr. Watters also explained that he believes that the Open Space money should be spent on other things not just Recreation.

Mrs. Oakley made a motion to approve setting aside \$450,000 for the walking trails on the recreation property, which was seconded by Mr. Baldwin.

Ayes: Mrs. Oakley, Mr. Baldwin, Mayor Nerbak

Nays: Mr. Jewell, Mr. Watters

Absent: None

Abstained: None

COMMITTEE PERSON COMMENTS:

Mr. Watters stated that Warren Hills Regional School Board is having a special meeting on July 29, 2008 at 4:30pm at the Bowerstown Building to discuss the a possible referendum and personnel matters.

Mr. Baldwin stated that there will be a special court session on August 9th for a DWI case.

Mrs. Oakley had no comments.

Mr. Jewell had no comments.

Mayor Nerbak stated that letters have been sent to Jeremy DeLuca and Bruce Stymacks to see if they are interested in still serving on the Open Space Committee and they have until August 1, 2008 to respond and if we do not receive any response then we will assume that they are not interested and we will be appointing new members to the Open Space Committee.

Mr. Baldwin made a motion to adjourn at 9:50pm, which was carried by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dena Hrebenak, RMC