

May 13, 2019

Neighbor,



First, I apologize for the delay in getting this meeting recap out to our residents.

In a continuing effort to better inform the residents of Morris Township about your local government, please read the following recap of the April 17 Township Committee meeting that follows this brief introduction. If you would like more detail than this recap provides, you can now watch complete video of the Township Committee meetings here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxS482sulq4FW35sWpcQEiQ/videos>

The most important item on our agenda at the April 17 meeting was the passage of the 2019 municipal budget. Our Township Administrator Tim Quinn made a budget presentation to the community and then the Township Committee answered resident questions. I am proud to announce that we passed a budget that required NO INCREASE in the municipal tax rate for the 2019 budget year.

I believe it is appropriate to have a healthy fund balance to set aside money in case of any emergencies, unforeseen expenses, or a possible reduction in state aid. The fund balance policy we have put in place shows that our current fund balance is at the right level.

You can find a copy of our adopted municipal budget along with the budget presentation made at the April 17 meeting (as well as past budget documents) on our municipal website: <https://www.morristwp.com/404/Municipal-BudgetsAudits>

If you would like to watch a video recording of the entire budget presentation please click here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Znyz6_WZeE&list=PLe3jLNssH-Ik0XD4luveDka1TN6q4YdUj

Three important facts about OUR budget and YOUR taxes for 2019:

- The municipal tax rate will remain the same as last year – meaning there is NO INCREASE in the municipal portion of your overall tax rate for 2019!
- Morris Township is the “tax collector” for all the other components of your tax bill. So your TOTAL property tax bill also includes the following taxes that we collect on behalf of others: Morris School District taxes, Morris County taxes, Library taxes, and open space taxes.
- Your municipal taxes make up just 22.8% of your overall property tax bill. School District taxes are over 60% of your total tax bill and are the single biggest driver of tax increases every year.

Finally, I would like to note with sadness the passing of former Committeeman and Mayor Bob Nace. At the April 17 meeting we observed a moment of silence in his memory. Bob was the Mayor my very first year as a Committeeman. I learned a lot from Mayor Nace and he served our community well. I would like to thank him for all that he taught me and for everything he did for our town.

If you have a question or comment to share with me please send me an email to jgrayzel@morristwp.com

Kindly forward this email to your friends and neighbors and encourage them to **sign up for our Municipal Messenger notifications by clicking here: [Municipal Messenger](#)**. Or sign up by providing an email address to messenger@morristwp.com. The Municipal Messenger is an invaluable tool to receive updates and information about Morris Township.

I encourage the public to come participate in our monthly meetings. The next Township Committee meeting will take place this Wednesday May 15 starting at 7:00pm. We have two special presentations for our May 15 meeting. The first is the promotion of Officer “OJ” Jason Lawlor. The second is the presentation of a community service award to Kathleen Hyland. As is usual, there is a public commentary portion at all our meetings, and the Township Committee always likes to hear from our residents. I hope to see you this Wednesday!

Sincerely,
Jeff Grayzel
Mayor, Morris Township

APRIL 17, 2019 MORRIS TOWNSHIP MEETING RECAP

The Morris Township Committee convened for their fourth business meeting of the year at 5:30 PM for closed session and reconvened for public session at 7:00 PM.

The full meeting agenda can be found here:

https://www.morristwp.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_04172019-976

PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD – Sue M. YOUNG

MORRIS COUNTY TOURISM – PRESERVATION AWARD-WASHINGTON VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE SCHOOLHOUSE

MORRIS MINUTE MEN EMS – COUNTY OF MORRIS OEM/EMS INITIATIVE PRESENTING – PRESIDENT OF THE MORRIS MINUTE MEN LINDA OMAGGIO AND COUNTY OEM DIRECTOR JEFF PAUL

PROCLAMATIONS

- [EDUCATION AND SHARING DAY](#)
- [SUPPORTING THE 2019 UDRIVE, UTEXT, UPAY-DISTRACTED DRIVING CRACKDOWN APRIL 1 - 21, 2019](#)
- [SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH – APRIL, 2019](#)
- [NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH – APRIL, 2019](#)

ORDINANCES –INTRODUCTION

The following Ordinances were introduced and will be heard for final passage on May 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

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| 07-19 | RE: ACCEPTING DEED OF EASEMENT LOT 13.01, BLOCK 6005, 8 OLD HARTER ROAD – GRANTEE: TODD PIERRO <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EASEMENT FOR SANITARY SEWER LINES |
| 14-19 | BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS, APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$2,700,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,570,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 CAPITAL PROGRAM |
| 15-19 | BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS, APPROPRIATING \$86,500 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$82,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 CAPITAL PROGRAM |
| 16-19 | ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$2,103,500 AVAILABLE IN THE SEWER UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FOR VARIOUS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 CAPITAL PROGRAM |
| 17-19 | ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$25,000 AVAILABLE IN THE PARKING UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE CONVENT TRAIN STATION HOUSE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 CAPITAL PROGRAM |
| 18-19 | ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$507,500 AVAILABLE IN THE GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TO PROVIDE FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 CAPITAL PROGRAM |

19-19 ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$985,000 TO PROVIDE FOR THE WASHINGTON VALLEY ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS

- 2019 CAPITAL PROGRAM; the municipality has received grant funding from NJDOT in the amount of \$550,000 towards the total cost of this expenditure.

The full text of each of the ordinances for introduction can be found here:

<https://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/5993/04-17-19-ORDINANCE-INTRODUCTION>

ORDINANCES –PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL CONSIDERATION

The following Ordinances have been adopted:

- 08-19 RE: MODIFYING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 9 SECTIONS 39-46 - ENTITLED "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE"
 - UPDATING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- 09-18 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 88 ENTITLED, "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" ARTICLE II, SECTION 88-2.7 AND SCHEDULE VI "NO PARKING SNOW-COVERED ROADWAY" LINDSLEY DRIVE – BOTH SIDES - ENTIRE LENGTH
 - ADDING STREET TO ORDINANCE
- 10-19 RE: ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$25,000 AVAILABLE IN THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF HVAC SYSTEM AT THE MT. KEMBLE FIRE STATION HEREIN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS
 - TO REPLACE AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM
- 11-19 CALENDAR YEAR 2019-ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4 45.14)
 - REQUIRED BUDGET DOCUMENT
- 12-19 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS, COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 95 ENTITLED ZONING BY REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE XII ENTITLED "SMALL CELL EQUIPMENT, WIRELESS CABINETS AND WIRELESS POLES IN THE MUNICIPAL RIGHT OF WAY" WITH NEW ARTICLE XII ENTITLED "RESERVED" AND REVISING SECTION 89(A)(IX) OF ARTICLE XIII ENTITLED "COLLOCATION ONTO EXISTING TOWERS AND BASE STATIONS."
 - UPDATE OF ORDINANCE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE FCC RULING
- 13-19 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS BY ADDING NEW ARTICLE VI ENTITLED "SITING OF POLES, CABINETS AND ANTENNAS" IN CHAPTER 439 ENTITLED "STREETS AND SIDEWALKS"
 - UPDATE OF ORDINANCE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE FCC RULING

The full text of each of the ordinances for adoption can be found here:

<https://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/5990/04-17-19--ORDINANCE-FINAL>

RESOLUTIONS

The Morris Township Committee took action on twelve(12) Resolutions, which can be found on the agenda (see link above). Resolutions are formally approved by the Township Committee on matters usually relating to professional services, the awarding of contracts, and to minor personnel matters.

Resolutions of note from April 17 include:

- Resolution supporting NJ's 2019 "U-drive. U-text. U-pay" Distracted Driving Crackdown
- Appointing Rebecca Roth as temporary Purchasing Agent for a term of one(1) yr. commencing May 1, 2019
- Awarding Tilcon NY Inc. thru The Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council the Road Overlay project
- Awarding Castle Fire Protection the DPW Fire Suppression System project
- Awarding Beyer Bros Corp. the Bid for the procurement of one current year crane carrier

CONSENT CALENDAR

On the Consent Calendar, the Township committee took several actions which can be found on the agenda (see link above). These include:

- Granted municipal consent for the 11th Annual Morris Area Freewheelers Foundation Revolutionary Ramble Bike tour that will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019. The purpose of the Ramble is to support local area all-volunteer first aid squads and to promote safe cycling. The cyclists will share the roads with vehicle traffic. The event is not a race, no request for road closures. The roads that will be used will be: Mendham Road, Washington Valley Road, Whitehead Road, School house Lane, Gaston Road, and Sussex Avenue.
- Granted municipal consent for the Halloween Half Marathon and relay race that will take place on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at 9:00 A.M. (rain date Sunday, November 3, 2019) . Staging will be at the Verizon parking lot, Morristown; the course for the race includes portions of Woodland Ave., Herms Pl., Kitchell Rd, S. Gate Pkwy, Fanok Road, Mt Kemble Avenue, James St., and Loantaka Park. The sponsors will be Jackrabbit of Morristown, Normandy Real Estate, Dr. James O'Rourke Physical Therapy.
- Approved the request for the Girls School of the Rabbinical College of America to hold a Jewish Pride Parade on May 23, 2019 from approximately 10:30 AM to 12 PM. through the Wheatsheaf neighborhood. It would be approximately 250 people, mid-size truck and a few vehicles.

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT The Committee also voted to pay the bills for the month of totaling \$10,542,820.91. As "tax collector" for the Morris School District, County of Morris and Joint Morristown Morris Township Library, this figure includes a \$4,778,200 transfer to the Morris School District, a \$456,176 transfer to the Joint Library, a \$178,051 Debt Service payment, \$2,774,678, annual pension payment to State of NJ, \$1,664,576 in salaries/benefits, and \$691,140 in operating, and capital project expenses for the Township.

NEXT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: May 15, 2019 at 7:00pm.

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