

Meeting The Regular Meeting of the Harmony Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Tipton. Mayor Tipton made the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a notice of the meeting to the Star Gazette and The Express-Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by the Mayor.

Roll Call Present were Mayor Tipton, Deputy Mayor Yamrock and Committeeman Cornely.

Budget Workshop The 2014 budget was reviewed before introduction. The committee was advised by Mr. Ardito that they should start thinking about the Dowel Property BAN. The committee had intended to go out to permanent bonding for 20+ years and in 2010 the payment schedule was put together based on bonding. The first payment estimated at \$260,000 was started to be put into the budget. Now is the time to execute bonding within 5 year period. Bonds have to close by April 2015. Takes several months to get prepared and they need to authorize someone to start the process with Bond Counsel. The total is 5.2 million to go out to bond.

Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock to authorize the CFO to begin the Dowel Property Bond process. Motion passed unanimously with all in favor.

The 2014 budget was briefly discussed. It was agreed that everything as previously agreed to would remain. At this time the budget is showing a 1.2 cent increase or equivalent to \$29.82 per year for a home assessed at \$250,000.00.

It was the consensus of the committee to introduce the budget per attached addendum.

2014 Budget Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock to adopt the following resolution:

**TOWNSHIP OF HARMONY
COUNTY OF WARREN
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION #14-20**

WHEREAS, the Township of Harmony is holding a meeting on March 4, 2014, for the purpose of introducing the 2014 Municipal Budget and conducting other matters; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harmony, Warren County, New Jersey, that the Township of Harmony hereby petitions the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2014 Local Municipal Budget be introduced and approved on March 4, 2014.

2014 HARMONY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Surplus anticipated general revenues	\$ 740,000.00
Total Miscellaneous revenue	565,054.00
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	150,175.00
Local Property Taxes	<u>1,261,666.00</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>\$2,716,895.00</u>
Total Operations	
Salaries and Wages	\$ 380,857.00
Other Expenses	1,109,018.00
Capital Improvements	60,000.00
Deferred Charges & Statutory Expend.	65,802.00
Debt Service	325,816.00
Reserve for Delinquent Taxes	<u>775,402.00</u>
Total 2014 Municipal Budget	<u>\$2,716,895.00</u>
2014 Municipal Tax Rate	0.2639

Committee Polled: (Ayes) Cornely, Tipton Yamrock; (Nays) none; (Abstain) none

It is hereby certified that this is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the governing body of the Township of Harmony at a regular meeting held March 4, 2014, at the Harmony Township Municipal Building.

Witness my hand and the SEAL of the Township of Harmony.

SEAL: _____
Kelley D. Smith, Township Clerk

Motion by Tipton, seconded by Cornely to adopt the following resolution:

**HARMONY TOWNSHIP
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION #14-21**

WHEREAS, the 2014 Local Municipal Budget was introduced on the 4th day of March, 2014; and,

WHEREAS, during the fiscal year 2014 the Township of Harmony has been allocated a state grant for various programs in the amount of \$80,998.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that petition be made herewith to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services that the 2014 Local Municipal Budget include a special item of revenue under the heading of "**Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services-Public and Private Revenues Offset with Appropriations:**"

Clean Communities Program-CY 2014	\$ 10,798.00
Highlands Council Grant - WMP	14,000.00
Highlands Council Grant - Conformance	<u>56,200.00</u>
	\$ <u>80,998.00</u>

Committee Polled: (Ayes) Yamrock, Tipton, Cornely; (Nays) none; (Abstain) none

Date: March 4, 2014

I, Kelley D. Smith, Clerk of the Township of Harmony, County of Warren do hereby certify foregoing to be a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the Harmony Township Committee at a meeting of said Township Committee held on March 4, 2014.

Witness my hand and the SEAL of the Township of Harmony.

SEAL:

Kelley D. Smith, Township Clerk

Girl Scout Proclamation The following Proclamation was read by Mayor Tipton and adopted on a motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock and carried unanimously by all in favor.

Girl Scout Proclamation

WHEREAS, March 9-15, 2014 marks Girl Scout Week as designated by Girl Scouts of the USA, a movement founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low in Savannah, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, throughout its long and distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired more than 50 million girls and women to strive for the highest ideals of courage, confidence and character; and

WHEREAS, through Girl Scouts, girls grow strong, gain self-confidence, develop leadership skills and learn the lifelong lesson of contributing back to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting helps girls achieve their potential by increasing awareness of opportunities which exist in the fields of math, science, sports, technology and other professional pursuits; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey was formed in 2008 and is capably delivering the optimal Girl Scout experience to over 28,000 young women and adults in Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset, Union, and Warren counties; and

WHEREAS, more than 3.8 million Girl Scouts nationwide, including in excess of 100,000 in the State of New Jersey, join in celebrating and rejoicing in this great American tradition,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Committee of the Township of Harmony, Warren County, New Jersey, do hereby proclaim March 9-15, 2014 as Girl Scout Week in the Township of Harmony.

Brian Tipton, Mayor

Witnessed:
Kelley Smith, Municipal Clerk

JCP&L Mr. Prater of Jersey Central Power and Light was present and gave an update to the committee and members of the public on the upgrades and notification systems that JCP&L have been working on.

Consent Motion by Tipton, seconded by Cornely and carried by all in favor to approve the consent agenda items that included:

- Attorney's Report
- Engineers Report
- Road Department Supervisor's Report
- Zoning Report
- Tax Collector Report
- Warren County Health Department Report
- Minutes Dated 2/4/14

New Business PEG Bandwidth Proposal Right Of Way Use Agreement is being reviewed by the Township Attorney.

R: 14-15; Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock and carried unanimously by all in favor to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #: 14-15

A RESOLUTION BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARMONY, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN REGARD TO NJDEP GREEN ACRES GRANT FUNDING FOR AN ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR PRESERVATION BY NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION IN HARMONY TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit land trust, is under option to purchase property identified on the official tax map of Harmony Township as Block 12, Lots 14-17 and 23-26 (the "Property"), and;

WHEREAS, the Property will protect the rural character of Harmony Township and preserve important mature forest areas and scenic vistas which are identified goals of the Township Open Space Plan, and;

WHEREAS, the Warren County Freeholders have granted Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Funds to NJCF to acquire the property and NJCF has allocated existing NJDEP nonprofit Green Acres Grant funds for the property acquisition, and;

WHEREAS, NJDEP Green Acres Grant funding awarded to Harmony Township is needed to complete the funding to acquire the property; and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Harmony, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That the Township authorizes NJDEP Green Acres Grant funding in the amount up to \$125,000 for the purchase of Block 12, Lots 14-17 and 23-26 in Harmony Township by NJCF.
2. Any interest in the property required to be taken by the Township as a result of the Green Acres grant will be transferred to NJCF for management and stewardship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

Harmony Township Clerk

Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, Kelley Smith, Clerk of the Township of Harmony, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution duly adopted on March 4, 2014.

Kelley Smith

SADC- Motion by tipton, seconded by Cornely to authorize the offer for the Preservation Contract for the Stern (Farley) Property on behalf of Harmony township Farmland Preservation by The Land Conservancy Of New Jersey.

R: 14-18; Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock and carried by all in favor unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

Harmony Township
Warren County, State of New Jersey
Resolution R:14-18

A Resolution Authorizing L.J. Brill & Associates, P.A., 216 Spring Valley Road Blairstown, New Jersey 07825, To Provide Surveying Services For Block 20/Lot 4.01, Block 20/Lot 4 and Block 21/Lot 6 For Farmland Preservation/Open Space Purposes

Whereas, The Township has determined that there is a need to enter into a professional services agreement with L.J. Brill & Associates to provide surveying on Block 20/Lot 4.01, Block 20/Lot 4 and Block 21/Lot 6 for farmland preservation purposes; and

Whereas, funds are available for this purpose; and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (NJSA 40A:11-5 et seq) requires that the resolution authorizing the award for Professional Services without competitive bid and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harmony, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township of Harmony hereby authorizes the execution of a professional services agreement with L.J. Brill & Associates as outlined in the February 27, 2014 proposal;
2. A notice of this contract shall be printed in the official newspaper of the Township of Harmony.

I, Kelley D. Smith, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Harmony, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Harmony Township Committee at a meeting held on March 4, 2014.

Kelley D. Smith
Municipal Clerk

R: 14-19; Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock and carried unanimously by all in favor to adopt the following resolution:

Harmony Township
Warren County, State of New Jersey
Resolution R:14-19

A Resolution Authorizing Title Lines, 15 Mendham Road, Gladstone, NJ 07934, To Provide Title Services For Block 20/Lot 4.01, Block 20/Lot 4 and Block 21/Lot 6 For Farmland Preservation/Open Space Purposes

Whereas, The Township has determined that there is a need to enter into a professional services agreement with Title Lines to provide title services on Block 20/Lot 4.01, Block 20/Lot 4 and Block 21/Lot 6 for farmland preservation purposes; and

Whereas, funds are available for this purpose; and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (NJSA 40A:11-5 et seq) requires that the resolution authorizing the award for Professional Services without competitive bid and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harmony, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Township of Harmony hereby authorizes the execution of a professional services agreement with Title Lines as outlined in the February 24, 2014 proposal;
2. A notice of this contract shall be printed in the official newspaper of the Township of Harmony.

I, Kelley D. Smith, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Harmony, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Harmony Township Committee at a meeting held on March 4, 2014.

Kelley D. Smith
Municipal Clerk

Ordinance No. 14-3
An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 08-1 Fixing The Salaries And Wages Of Township Officials And Employees Of The Township Of Harmony, County Of Warren And State Of New Jersey was considered for adoption at this time.

Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock and carried unanimously by all in favor to open the public hearing at this time.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Tipton, seconded by Yamrock and carried unanimously by all in favor to close the public hearing at this time.

Motion by Yamrock, seconded by Cornely to adopt Ordinance No. 14-3 at this time. Roll Call: Ayes: Tipton, Yamrock, Cornely. Nays: None.

Vouchers Motion by Yamrock, seconded by Cornely and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the vouchers submitted by the CFO for payment. Ayes: Tipton, Cornely, Yamrock

Public John Chisamore commented on the snow plowing procedures and voiced
Comments his concerns about the snow being plowed across the roads.

Lee Ross complemented the Road Department on the job they were doing with the snow plowing.

Jane Nemeth indicated that there is a large sink hole along Brainards Road across from the Crouse farm.

Executive Motion by Tipton, seconded by Cornely and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

**TOWNSHIP OF HARMONY
COUNTY OF WARREN**

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

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 present exist.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Harmony, County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

 -Potential Litigation
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated matter will be made public at such time as deemed appropriate.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

* * * * *

I, Kelley D. Smith, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Harmony, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution duly and unanimously adopted by the Harmony Township Committee at a meeting held on March 4, 2014.

Kelley D. Smith
Municipal Clerk

There being no further discussion, the meeting was reopened to the public.

Adjourn Motion by Tipton, seconded by Cornely and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Kelley D. Smith, Municipal Clerk