

**October 30, 2007**  
**Pilesgrove Township**  
**Work Session**  
**Minutes**

Mayor Bickford called the work session meeting of the Pilesgrove Township Committee to order at 9:00 A.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Bickford stated that the meeting was in compliance with the New Jersey Sunshine law, and the Clerk read the annual notice:

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings law. This meeting of October 30, 2007 was included in a list of meetings notice sent to the Today's Sunbeam and the Elmer Times on January 3, 2007, posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building on January 3, 2007 and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the Statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Bickford advised that proper notice having been given; the Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

Attendance: Ernie Bickford  
Ed Kille  
William Miller  
Ruth Moynihan, CFO

Ms. Moynihan discussed the tax collection/finance department's 2008 budget needs. Ms. Moynihan advised that the software program currently in use is a DOS based program and that the vendor, Edmunds & Associates, is providing support for the program. Most municipalities are switching to a windows based system, and Edmunds may phase out support of the DOS based programs. The cost to the Township to switch to the Windows program is approximately \$5,000. Ms. Moynihan requested that this change be completed by the end of 2007, to set it up for the 2008 calendar year. Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to approve the cost of \$5,000.00 for the Windows based system for the finance/tax programs. Ayes all.

Ms. Moynihan requested that Committee consider increasing the 2008 Finance Department other expense to \$5,000.00 to provide for the services of the auditor and the cost of educational expenses for the Treasurer Kim Fleetwood, who is currently taking courses for certification in the finance and tax areas.

Discussion took place on the request of the Reliance Fire Company for an increase to a total of \$55,000.00, including both capital and non-capital expenses. The request is for the non- capital budget to increase from \$38,000.00 to \$43,000.00. This may present a cap problem in the budget. Ms. Moynihan will evaluate the impact of the request on the Township's budget with regard to the 3.5% cap.

Motion made by Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kille to approve the payment of \$620.00 to Motivational Productions for the cost of an assembly program called "Count on Me" at the Mary Shoemaker School on November 1, 2007 that is sponsored by the Township Municipal Alliance. Ayes all.

Discussion took place on the request from the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Business Association to use the Township courtroom for the organization's meetings. The dates and times presented by Paul Langley and Patricia Smith were not clear with regard to the dates and times. The Clerk was directed to ask for a specific schedule that outlines when the Township building would be used.

Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to authorize the Clerk to sign and return a letter of participation in the PARIS County Shared Services Project to the County of Salem Office of Archives and Records Management. Ayes all.

Discussion took place on the request by Freeholder David Lindenmuth for the Township to pass a resolution to participate in Salem County's Shared Services Feasibility Study to evaluate further consolidation of Municipal Courts within the County. Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to table any action on this matter. Ayes all.

Jeff Hepler, Andrew Carpenter and Jamie Danner, representing the Marlton Recreation Association addressed Committee on the 2008 budget for the Marlton Park and other planned projects at the Park.

Mr. Danner, the Association Treasurer, advised Committee that the 2007 salary and wage expenditure that is funded by the Township is down from 2006, because of the illness of one employee and the retirement of another. There are currently only two active employees at the Park. While 2005 was over budget, because of the decrease this year, the S & W net for the 2 year period is probably down. Mr. Danner requested that the S & W line item not be reduced for 2008. The retired employee will have to be replaced in 2008 – the Association will be making a recommendation to Township Committee to fill the position.

Mr. Danner outlined the Association's plan for a new playground. The Rec Association has the funding in place for a state of the art playground that will be installed behind the new pavilion and the senior baseball field on the north side of the park. A playground consultant will be in charge of the installation, and the Association is trying to use as many volunteers as possible for the actual installation to reduce costs. The Association requests that the Township provide any equipment that it might have to assist in the site preparation. Discussion took place on this, Committeeman Miller advised that any Township equipment would have to be operated by a Township employee, and that the Township would use the park S & W budget to pay for the employee. Further discussion took place on the type of equipment the Township has and the equipment that would work best at the location. The Clerk was directed to ask the Township insurance company about liability regarding the use of privately owned equipment on Township property.

Mayor Bickford asked if the playground equipment had been purchased, and Mr. Danner advised not yet, but it is in stock and ready for delivery. Mr. Miller advised that he would like to be included in the meeting with the playground consultant.

Discussion took place on the walking trail. The Recreation Association has received a \$15,000. grant from the State to finish the walking trail, and has the cash match necessary for the work. The existing walking trail has some damaged areas, and the Township insurance company has noted the condition of the walking trail on the annual safety inspection. The Association would like to finish the trail and overlay the entire trail to address the damaged sections. The cost for that work is estimated at approximately \$50,000.00, and the Association does not have that amount of money available. Discussion took place on possible assistance with the project, including the County. Mr. Hepler will contact the County to request any assistance they can provide on repairing the trail.

Discussion took place on the plan of the Football organization to construct a new building to be used for storage, meetings and announcing at the football field. This project is scheduled to be discussed at the Rec Association's November 4 meeting.

Messrs. Carpenter, Danner and Hepler left the meeting.

Committeeman Kille updated Committee on the Township farmland/open space program. The County Planner has provided comments on the Township draft PIG application, which the Township may or may not include in the final application that is forwarded to the State. The County intends to fund their portion of any preservation easements with IPAs (installment payment arrangements). Any applicants to the Township program must be made aware of the County's funding decision.

Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to open the meeting to the public. Resident Cheryl Reardon advised Committee that Governor Corzine is scheduled to make a visit to the Schober farm in Monroeville on Thursday, November 1 to promote the Garden State Preservation Trust, and requested that members of the Township Committee plan on attending.

Ms. Reardon also inquired if the County has considered an option plan on the County funding plan for the PIG program, or some type of emergency review to opt out of the installment plan. Mr. Kille advised he was not aware of any other funding consideration by the County other than the IPA.

There being no further public comment, motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to go into closed session to discuss matters in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, specifically litigation in the matter of Pacilli v. Pilesgrove. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miller to reopen the meeting to the public. Ayes all.

Motion made by Kille, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bickford to adjourn at 11:20 A.M.

Maureen R. Abdill, Clerk