

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Warren Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and stated that in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” this Meeting was duly noticed to the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 15, 2015 and the Express Times on January 15, 2015; the Agenda has been posted at Borough Hall and distributed to the Courier News, the Express Times, the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the Star Ledger on April 1, 2015.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Cooper asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present for the Meeting:

John Hindman
Michele Liebttag
Jack Opdyke
Caroline Scutt
William Sullivan

Absent from Meeting:

Cathy Leach

Attorney Paul Rizzo, and Borough Clerk, Brenda S. Shepherd, were present for the Meeting. 10 member of the public was also present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Council approved to open the public comment session.

Dominikija Prostack, representing the Green Team, stated that they are planning a town wide yard sale. She spoke to the Chief of Police about it. The Business Association is planning on piggy backing with a sidewalk sale in the downtown. She is getting flyer out for that. She also noted that the Green Team is putting together a list of things to keep out of the single stream recycling such as plastic bags.

Ms. Prostack also noted that the used clothing shed is in the parking lot at Old Frenchtown Field to the left close to the recycling container and two feet from the sign that says “No illegal dumping”. She will include those flyers with the mailer. The clothing shed will bring in funds for the Green Team along with actions for Sustainable Jersey. Mayor Cooper stated the Council has been talking about locating two trailers for the school in the parking lot. Mayor Cooper noted that the Borough has been talking about two trailers for the school being located in the parking lot. Dominikija Prostack noted that they are trying to get the shed moved to the recycling center. We can move it if we need to because of the school trailers.

Sam Valsridge of Yellow Dog noted that he wanted to speak in support of Riverfest and Bastille Day and the closing of Bridge Street from Harrison Street to Trenton Avenue instead of Harrison Street from Second Street to Bridge Street. The Police Chief likes the idea of closing Bridge Street instead. More foot traffic will come to that part of town. Everyone will see our windows, milling and walking around that section of town.

Frenchtown Business and Professional Association

Mike Tysinski, from the Business Association, stated that he had the activity forms for Bastille Day and Riverfest reviewed by the Chief of Police and he has signed off on it. This proposal changes the venue for the closed part of the Street. It proposes to close Bridge Street from Harrison Street to Trenton Avenue. It is a safer option. Bastille Day is July 11th. We would like the approval at least a month ahead of time. Caroline Scutt noted that the Business Association will need extra police officers. Mayor Cooper added that the Council will need input from the Chief. We will place it on the May 6th agenda.

Frenchtown Bridge Street LLC

Paul Michael from Frenchtown Bridge Street, LLC stated that they are looking to seek some relief to thin out the woodland area to the Borough's lot and the Stout property along the river. They want to clean out the underbrush and trim trees. It would benefit them. Mayor Cooper reminded the Council that at the request of the State, the Borough passed an ordinance that does not allow clearing of anything including poison ivy 100 feet from the river bank. An applicant can apply for relief to that. Attorney Rizzo noted that the ordinance allows variance relief to be sought through the Board of Adjustment. The question was what relief are they seeking from the Governing Body? A copy of the ordinance was provided to Frenchtown Bridge Street LLC. The Council cannot act on the request. Rich Mowry, tree expert from T&T tree speaking on behalf of Frenchtown Bridge Street LLC. noted that the main objective is to clean up the area north as a ton of debris has fallen and trees are dead. The D&R holds the same sentiment. North of the area that they have cleaned up is non-native vegetation. He asked if they are allowed to improve the area? The Norway Maple is choking out everything. They are 1 to 6 inches and there will be no soil disturbance or no machines. It would be an extension of the area previously cleaned up from the stream bank to the towpath and the other side. Mayor Cooper noted that the DEP language says you cannot do anything. William Sullivan commented that the Planning Board Attorney will let you know if relief can be given. Rich Mowry noted that they would remove only the Norway Maple and anything on the ground and get rid of the non-natives. It would give the native trees a better chance to survive. Then, in the future, it could be maintained. Mayor Cooper noted that people's memories are long. The last time there were discussions, trees were marked to be removed that were large. People will be watching. We want it to be done properly. George Michael responded that the Mayor and he had an agreement to clear the property. He had an agreement with Stout to buy the property for \$20,000.00 and that agreement fell apart because of the Borough. He agreed to take out trees that big. We are now talking about something simple, clear the place up. Mayor Cooper noted that you must overcome the obstacles from the ordinance in place. It will get done in a manner we agree to. Attorney Rizzo noted that in Section 4 of the ordinance, new disturbance may be allowed through a zoning board variance. You have to apply for a variance to the planning board. George Michael stated that it is a pre-existing lot. Mayor Cooper stated that the Borough was requested by the DEP to adopt this ordinance. Like you and your company, this Governing Body is governed by rules, statutes, laws and regulations. We are bound by the ordinance that we cannot alter. He recommended that George Michael bring it to the planning board. William Sullivan stated that he is on Council, the Shade Tree Commission and the Planning Board and is a gardener by trade. He is willing to meet with a tree expert and see what action we can take and will take it when the planning board give approval. Rich Mowry noted that it will also provide an environmental benefit. Paul Michael thanked the Council for its time.

Dominikija Prostack commented that a certification of taxes that were paid is to be sent with the

recycling tonnage report. Will that get included in the submission? Mayor Cooper asked that Dominikija Prostack review the recycling tonnage report application prior to submission.

PROCLAMATION – Commending Northwest NJ Community Action Partnership, Inc. (NORWESCAP) upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Community Action Proclamation

Mayor Cooper proclaimed the following and Council accepted the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION COMMENDING NORTHWEST NJ COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, INC. (NORWESCAP) UPON THE OCCASION OF CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY ACTION

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across northwestern New Jersey are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of the organization and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative body is justly proud to commend NORWESCAP, upon the occasion of celebrating their 50th Anniversary of serving the community; and

WHEREAS, Since 1965, Northwest NJ Community Action Partnership, Inc. (NORWESCAP) has been providing invaluable and outstanding service to the citizens; and

WHEREAS, NORWESCAP is one of 23 Community Action Agencies in New Jersey State, and one of over 1,000 nationwide founded on a common purpose: to support low-income households as they develop their abilities to be self-supporting and develop family and community relationships that will sustain self-reliance; and

WHEREAS, Community Action was born out of the Equal Opportunity Act of 1964 that was initiated by President John F. Kennedy and brought to fruition by Lyndon B. Johnson who, during a memorable State of the Union address 50 years ago, declared unconditional war on poverty; the Economic Opportunity Act was signed into law on August 20, 1964, and not only spurred the birth of Community Action, but also inspired the introduction of Head Start one year later; and

WHEREAS, NORWESCAP was created through these efforts; and

WHEREAS, Half a century later, NORWESCAP operates fifteen major programs: has grown to 270 full and part-time employees and more than 30,000 individuals are served each year through a multitude of anti-poverty services; and

WHEREAS, NORWESCAP is a community leader; its positive action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes New Jersey a better place in which to live; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Northwest NJ Community Action Partnership, Inc. (NORWESCAP), upon the occasion of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Community Action, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution, suitably endorsed be transmitted to Norwest NJ Community Action Partnership of Phillipsburg, Inc.

Caroline Scutt noted that NORWESCAP is a good organization. They do work with head start in Hunterdon County and also help get women back to work after divorce, etc. William Sullivan noted that he has work with the food pantry and they have always done great work. Jack Opdyke commented that NORWESCAP is a great organization. It is amazing what they do with a dollar.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Governing Body and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

On motion by Jack Opdyke, seconded by Michele Liebttag and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved the consent agenda approving the bills list of 4/1/2015 and Resolutions #2015-48 and Resolutions #2015-49 as follows:

RESOLUTION 2015-48

TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a Resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for such tonnage grants for calendar year 2014 will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the asset of the Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown that the Borough of Frenchtown hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates Alan Dilley, Certified Recycling Coordinator, to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Borough of Frenchtown

By: _____
Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Dated: 4/1/15
ATTEST:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC

R E S O L U T I O N #2015-49

BE IT RESOLVED that due to the economic uncertainties of the day, the time for accumulating and preparing the necessary information for the 2015 Budget will exceed the time fixed by statute.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown is requesting an extension for introduction to May 6, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and hereby is authorized and directed to forward two (2) certified copies of this resolution to the Office of the Director of Local Government Services and furnish said Director with any further information required to act upon this matter.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Date: April 1, 2015

Attest:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES of 3/4/15

On motion by Michele Liebttag, seconded by John Hindman and carried by favorable roll call vote with Jack Opdyke abstaining, the Mayor and Common Council approved the Regular Council meeting minutes of March 4, 2015.

PRESENTATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES of 2/4/15

On motion by Michele Liebttag, seconded by John Hindman and carried by favorable roll call vote with Caroline Scutt abstaining, the Mayor and Common Council approved the Executive Session meeting minutes of February 4, 2015.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #2015--50 - Professional Service Contract for Special Counsel

Mayor Cooper noted that this resolution is to approve a professional service contract for special counsel to do an investigation on a personnel matter. On motion by William Sullivan, seconded by Michele Liebttag and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved resolution #2015-50 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2015-50

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2015, the Borough of Frenchtown adopted an oral motion to take the action being ratified and confirmed by this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Frenchtown is in need of the services of Special Counsel to provide an investigation of a personnel matter; and

WHEREAS, Special Counsel would provide an investigation of a personnel matter and a comprehensive report; and

WHEREAS, William F. Maderer of Saiber, Attorneys at Law, submitted a proposal dated March 13, 2015 indicating they will provide an investigation of a personnel matter and comprehensive report for the amount of \$225.00 per hour, not to exceed \$15,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Matthew J. Giacobbe of Cleary, Giacobbi, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC. submitted a proposal dated March 25, 2015 indicating they will provide an investigation of a personnel matter and comprehensive report for the amount of \$150.00 per hour, not to exceed \$5,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Frenchtown desired to award a non-fair and open professional services contract to Matthew J. Giacobbe of Cleary, Giacobbi, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC.; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40:11-1 et. seq. requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contracts themselves must be available for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds for this contract as required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5; and

WHEREAS, Matthew J. Giacobbe of Cleary, Giacobbi, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC. will be required to complete and submit a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Matthew J. Giacobbe of Cleary, Giacobbi, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Frenchtown to the Mayor or Common Council in the previous year, and that the contract will prohibit Matthew J. Giacobbe of Cleary, Giacobbi, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC. from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, by this Resolution the Council hereby ratifies and confirms its action on March 26, 2015 to award a non-fair and open professional services contract to Matthew J. Giacobbe of Cleary, Giacobbi, Alfieri, Jacobs LLC. to provide an investigation of a personnel matter and a comprehensive report in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council hereby ratifies and confirms the action described in this Resolution.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Dated: April 1, 2015

Attest:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

Resolution #2015-51 - Temporary Budget Appropriations -

Mayor Cooper noted that the Borough needs to extend the temporary budget because of the Department of Community Affairs not getting us figures. Michele Liebttag noted that she has the Fire Department budget request. On motion by Caroline Scutt, seconded by Jack Opdyke and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved resolution #2015-51 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-51

TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the 2015 Temporary Budget Appropriations be raised by the statutory one twelfth.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

Dated: 4-1-15

Attest:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

Resolution #2015-52 - Dedication by Rider

Mayor Cooper noted that this resolution will establish a means for excepting gifts and donations to the Environmental Commission. The Borough needs permission from the State to accept some funds. On motion by Michele Liebttag, seconded by William Sullivan and carried by favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved resolution #2015-52 as follows:

Resolution No. 2015-52
Dedication by Rider

Borough of Frenchtown of Hunterdon County

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE DEDICATION

BY RIDER FOR DONATIONS – ACCEPTANCE OF BEQUESTS AND GIFTS/THE FRIENDS
OF THE FRENCHTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REQUIRED BY NJS 40A:5-29

WHEREAS, permission is required of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services for approval as a dedication by rider of revenues received by a municipality when the revenue is not subject to reasonably accurate estimates in advance; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29 provides for receipt of DONATIONS – ACCEPTANCE OF BEQUESTS AND GIFTS/ THE FRIENDS OF THE FRENCHTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION by the municipality to provide for the operating costs to administer this act; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-39 provides the dedicated revenues anticipated from DONATIONS – ACCEPTANCE OF BEQUESTS AND GIFTS/ THE FRIENDS OF THE FRENCHTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION are hereby anticipated as revenue and are hereby appropriated for the purpose to which said revenue is dedicated by statute or other legal requirement:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Frenchtown, County Hunterdon New Jersey as follows:

1. The Governing Body does hereby request permission of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to pay expenditures of DONATIONS – ACCEPTANCE OF BEQUESTS AND GIFTS/ THE FRIENDS OF THE FRENCHTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION under N.J.S.A. 40A:5-29.
2. The Clerk of the Borough of Frenchtown, County of Hunterdon is hereby directed to forward two certified copies of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

WARREN E. COOPER, Mayor

Attest:

April 1, 2015

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

Resolution #2015-53 – Sewer Rate Increase

Mayor Cooper noted that this resolution is for the planned increase of the annual service charge for rental fees per unit. The schedule was set in place a number of years ago when we submitted

paperwork for the loans for the sewer project. It was our way to demonstrate repaying of the debt service. On motion by Jack Opdyke, seconded by William Sullivan and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved resolution #2015-53 as follows:

BOROUGH OF FRENCHTOWN

Resolution 2015-53

WHEREAS, the Borough of Frenchtown has an Ordinance establishing a service charge or rent for the use of the Borough of Frenchtown sanitary sewerage system to be established and amended periodically by Resolution of the Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown that the fees under Ordinance #472 shall be as follows:

- A. Annual service charge or rental fee per rental unit be \$800.00 commencing August 1, 2015.
- B. To reflect a (\$50.00) fifty dollar per unit per year increase in the fee previously charged per rental unit, the fee shall be as follows:

- \$200.00 for the 1st Quarter 2016
- \$200.00 for the 2nd Quarter 2016
- \$200.00 for the 3rd Quarter 2015
- \$200.00 for the 4th Quarter 2015

Dated: April 1, 2015

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor
Borough of Frenchtown

ATTEST:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC
Borough Clerk

ORDINANCES

Ordinance #755 - An Ordinance of the Borough of Frenchtown accepting Jurisdiction of that portion of Harrison Street from Seventh Street to Twelfth Street at Harrison Street's Boundary with the Township of Alexandria from the County of Hunterdon (Introduction)

Mayor Cooper noted that the Borough discovered that we had agreed to take over responsibility back in 2007 in exchange for the County rebuilding the road. On motion by William Sullivan,

seconded by John Hindman and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Council approved the introduction of Ordinance #755 as follows:

ORDINANCE #755

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF FRENCHTOWN ACCEPTING JURISDICTION OF THAT PORTION OF HARRISON STREET FROM SEVENTH STREET TO TWELFTH STREET AT HARRISON STREET'S BOUNDARY WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA FROM THE COUNTY OF HUNTERDON

WHEREAS, the County of Hunterdon and the Borough of Frenchtown have, over a period of years, discussed the County relinquishing jurisdiction of that portion of Harrison Street from Seventh Street to Twelfth Street at Harrison Street's boundary with the Township of Alexandria to the Borough of Frenchtown; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2015, the Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted a Resolution titled "Resolution Dedicating Harrison Street to Frenchtown Borough" of which a copy is attached as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:67-2, desires to accept jurisdiction of this portion of Harrison Street from the County and incorporate this portion of Harrison Street into the Borough's road system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the Borough of Frenchtown, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Borough of Frenchtown, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:67-2, accepts jurisdiction of that portion of Harrison Street from Seventh Street to Twelfth Street at Harrison Street's boundary with the Township of Alexandria, as described in attached Exhibit B and shown on attached Exhibit C, from the County of Hunterdon and incorporates that portion of Harrison Street into the Borough's road system.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall not take effect until the County of Hunterdon Board of Chosen Freeholders relinquishes jurisdiction over that portion of Harrison Street by duly adopting a Resolution, and upon this Ordinance being adopted, published and recorded as required by law.

Warren E. Cooper, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda S. Shepherd, RMC, Borough Clerk

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Animal Control Services – Interlocal Public Health Service Interlocal Agreement

Mayor Cooper noted that last month Taghd Rainey from the Hunterdon County Health Department was here and gave us information for animal control service through the County. We were concerned because of the timing that we would have to pay additional fees. The County has agreed to prorate the fees beginning April 1st. On motion by Jack Opdyke, seconded by John Hindman and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved the Interlocal Public Health Service Interlocal Agreement to include Animal Control Services for 2015 as attached to this set of minutes.

Frenchtown Board of Education request to store two construction trailers of building materials at Old Frenchtown Field

Mayor Cooper noted that the Borough did not take action at the last meeting because we wanted clarification including insurance, indemnification agreement, length of time, etc. Attorney Paul Rizzo noted that the Borough has received the answer to its questions. We do not currently have proof that the Borough is on the insurance certification nor an agreement to indemnify. The Borough can approved the request subject to receipt of the insurance certification naming the Borough as additional insured and an agreement to indemnify the Borough. Mayor Cooper noted that they are requesting permission to place the trailers at Old Frenchtown Field from May 31st to August 31st. On motion by William Sullivan, seconded by John Hindman and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved to allowed the Frenchtown Elementary School to place 2 construction trailers in the parking lot at Old Frenchtown Field from May 31, 2015 – August 31, 2015 subject to receipt of an insurance certificate naming the Borough of Frenchtown as an additional insurance and subject to the Borough of Frenchtown receiving from Frenchtown Elementary School an agreement to indemnify the Borough of Frenchtown, both to be reviewed and approved by Borough Attorney, Albert Cruz.

Approval of Raffle License for Courthouse Quilters

On motion by William Sullivan, seconded by John Hindman and carried by favorable voice vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved the Raffle License Application for Courthouse Quilters for door raffle prizes through 2015.

Approval of River to Sea event on August 1, 2015

On motion by Jack Opdyke, seconded by Michele Liebttag and carried by favorable voice vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved the annual River to Sea event to be held on August 1, 2015.

Trash dumping

Mayor Cooper noted that there is trash dumping at Old Frenchtown Field according to an email from Mike Reino. The trash is being dumped at the former location of the recycling containers. At night, people are dropping off strange items and it has become the Borough's problem. Mike Reino would like to put a security camera up and raise the fine to \$5,000.00. He thinks this will deter people from dumping. Michele Liebttag recommended putting up a sign and posting that cameras are there. Michele Liebttag noted that she did ask the police to patrol the area.

Frenchtown Farmers Market

Mayor Cooper noted that the Frenchtown Farmers Market is still a work in progress. Brendan Edmunds from the Green Team is working to put that together this year. It would run mid July to

mid September. Brendan Edmunds said many of the vendors are already scheduled with other places. Yard sale proceeds were to be used for that event. These funds could be ear marked for next year as Brendan Edmunds is leaning toward doing it in 2016.

ANJEC grant application for the Environmental Commission

Mayor Cooper noted that the ANJEC grant application deadline was 4:00 pm today. The Environmental Commission put an application together to do work on the trail at the park and to do some repairs to the bridge and to put up additional signage. He signed the grant application.

Holiday pay for Barbara Gallagher

Michele Liebttag noted that this request is similar to requests we get from employees at the end of the year to enact part of the employee handbook. Ms. Gallagher made a request for holiday pay under the provisions of the handbook. She recommended that Council approve the request. The amount would be around \$1,100.00 for the duration of her employment. She spoke with Attorney Cruz and it is a valid request and he was in favor of it. Council consented.

Approval of COAH unit substitution at Frenchtown Barn Center

Mayor Cooper stated that we have a request to identify one of the unit in that senior house apartment complex as a COAH unit, substituting one COAH unit for this one. The resident who resides in the upstairs unit has requested to move it to the downstairs unit which was not designed for COAH use because she is currently having difficulty navigating the steps. Since everything else stays in place, we can accept this change. Brenda Shepherd noted she spoke with Attorney Cruz and Planner McKenzie and the unit can be changed as long as the Deed is rerecorded with the restrictions. On motion by William Sullivan, seconded by Jack Opdyke, and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the Mayor and Common Council approved the Frenchtown Barn Center's request to move the low income COAH unit from 27 Eleventh Street to 21 Eleventh Street subject to rerecording of the Deed to restrict 21 Eleventh Street as the COAH unit and subject to a review of the Deed by Attorney Cruz prior to recording.

OLD BUSINESS

Recycling – Food Waste recycling

Mayor Cooper stated that we are still working on this.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility update

Jack Opdyke reported that he met with Victor Gilardi yesterday and they are still working out bugs. Some of the demo has been completed. Adam Liebttag stated that there is a punch list of items that remain to be fixed in the operations building besides the demolition work. The project is not done until the demolition is done. He highlighted that the work that the Borough had to do was added to the cost of the contract. Jack Opdyke noted that Victor Gilardi was contacted by the USDA and they wanted to do an Earth day event. Victor Gilardi said no because we want it to be a show piece. Adam Liebttag commented that the site is still a construction site and we did not feel it was prudent or safe. The Borough open house will be mid May.

Hilltop Streets

Mayor Cooper noted that William Sullivan, John Hindman, Brad Myhre and he got together and identified April 18th as the date we will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the parameters of the plan. Attorney Cruz and Engineer Burr will be here to answer questions. All the property owners

have been notified. Responding to William Sullivan, Mayor Cooper stated that the meeting is just for those property owners and it is scheduled for 10:00 am on April 18th. He added that they are not convening as a Council and no action will be taken.

Sewer Committee recommendations re: Sewer rents and fees

Adam Liebttag noted that he sent information to the Borough and a budget request. We talked about the formula. It is a matter of what direction Council wants to go. He suggested that the Council get the auditor to look at the debt service for this year to be added to the budget. The debt service is higher than in the past years. He recommended taking a close look at the sewer budget and revenue with the rate increase. It will not match what the projected revenue was for the loan application. He is available to review that. The budget is the operations side. The debt service is \$500,000.00 on the loan. Operations is the same. Mayor Cooper noted that the expectation was the Frenchtown Bridge Street LLC was going to kick in sewer hoop up fees and the Borough would have that money. Adam Liebttag commented that we had a developer's agreement that would have had additional rental units. We original projected a total of 909 units and we are around 880, short 29 from the projection. We may not have those units this year.

Frenchtown 7, LLC – Redevelopment Plan

Mayor Cooper noted that there is a Technical Review Committee meeting scheduled with members of the Planning Board, professionals and principals involved with the development.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

John Hindman reported that Michele Liebttag and he attend a solid waste management meeting about possible shared services. They requested that we put together a letter of intent that we will pursue it further. It is a good thing to do. Within the municipalities in Hunterdon County, it can consolidate the costs. Three townships, Lebanon, Stockton and Frenchtown have contracts ending by the end of the year. This is for trash and recycling. Michele Liebttag added that we will put out a shared service bid and a current version of the bid to see if we come back with savings. There is a uniform specification for shared services. There is room for discussion on recycling. Some do not get the benefit of the tipping fees. It has to work for all.

Michele Liebttag also noted that Alan Johnson from the County brought up the possibility of a pilot program for municipal paint collection. We could put something at the recycling center. This is an effort to cut down on traffic back ups at the County. She wants to share the information with Mike Reino and the committee. Mayor Cooper stated that we would get credit for it. Michele Liebttag noted that the drums are collected and the County will get them. Then, new drums come in. John Hindman stated that 10 drums would be dropped off and once 5 are filled, you call and they pick them up. We want to be a pilot and do it as soon as possible. Dominikija Prostack stated that she would like to see that instituted by the end of the year. Michele Liebttag stated that we can enact it now. We agreed to be the pilot. Mayor Cooper stated that we need to work out where in the DPW yard it will be. He spoke with Mike Reino last week and began the conversation to get together and walk the property to identify what part of the yard will be used for what. Mike Reino is willing to switch his schedule to do this. Responding to Michele Liebttag, Mayor Cooper stated that things still need to be removed from the yard.

Michele Liebttag also reported that Electronic Clean Up is April 11th and Paper Shredding is April 25th at the County. Responding to Mayor Cooper as to credit for what is dropped off at the County

by Frenchtown residents, Dominikija Prostack noted that the amount is split up amongst the municipalities by population. Dominikija Prostack added that the Borough has a Goodwill Electronic Recycling dumpster and the Borough get more money in the tonnage grant for electronics. The Borough will get the recycling slip directly and can report that on the tonnage grant. It is the blue container by the brush piles. Michele Liebttag stated that we need to get things organized at the DPW yard first. William Sullivan recommended posting it on the dumpster once everything is in place.

Michele Liebttag noted that the Police Department Activity Report is in the packet. Chief Kurylka heard back on the grant from Statewide Insurance for body cameras. We are getting a grant for \$855.63 for two body cameras. Mayor Cooper noted that the grant is a reimbursable grant.

Michele Liebttag also reported that Paul Murphy and Robert Young just completed the law enforcement training class. Robert Young successfully completed "Patrol Response to Victims of Sexual Assault". Robert Young also received a nice thank you note from a woman that he stopped who was lost and upset and he was a bright spot in her day. Caroline Scutt added that Robert Young had to put down an injured deer at her house. He was terrific about it.

Mayor Cooper noted that he received a formal notice since the March meeting that we did not get the Transportation Alternative Grant for the downtown. We were encouraged to reapply.

Mayor Cooper reported that last month, the Council approved the shared service agreement with the Joint Court that the Borough shares with Alexandria and Holland Townships. Every year the Mayors meet with the Judge and Court Administrator. The court is held here three times a month and some of the fixed costs are divided equally but payroll is born by each municipality based on the usage of the court. That number is based on summonses issued. Those numbers fluctuate year to year. Two years ago, the Borough was at 71%, this past year, the Borough was at 56% and this year, the Borough is back up to 70%. Of the 2,144 summons written last year, Frenchtown issued 1508, Alexandria issued 414 and Holland issued 222. Holland has its own police force and does a lot of community policing but Alexandria does not have its own police department. Our portion of the budget will go up. The details will need to be worked out. The Borough is taking on a greater portion of the budget. Responding to Michele Liebttag, Mayor Cooper stated that our revenues could have increased or our revenues could have stayed the same and Holland and Alexandria Townships could have dropped. The Borough did \$75,000.00 in revenue from the court last year. Of the \$150,000.00, we will be responsible for 70% of certain expenses.

CORRESPONDENCE

None discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm on motion by Michele Liebttag, seconded by Jack Opdyke and carried by favorable voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Shepherd, RMC – Borough Clerk