

**MINUTES BASS RIVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011**

Mayor Cope called the regular meeting of the Bass River Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:30 p.m. Present at meeting were: Mayor Deborah Buzby-Cope, Commissioner T. Richard Bethea and Commissioner Gary Smith. Also present Township Clerk Amanda Somes and Solicitor. Members of the public were present at this meeting.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Cope led the flag salute and read the sunshine statement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the regular meeting of August 1, 2011, were presented to the Board for review with copies available for public. The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve minutes as submitted by the Clerk. Votes: Cope -Yes, Bethea -Yes, Smith-Yes. Minutes hereby approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS LIST:

The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$569,564.99. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve bills for payment. Votes: Cope –Yes, Bethea –Abstain on Payment to Great Bay Regional EMS in the amount of \$13,000—Yes to all other payments, Smith-Yes. All present in favor and bills were ordered paid.

PINELAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DIST	14243	168274.48
HOME DEPOT	14244	130.08
BASS RIVER BD OF ED	14245	101223.33
A T & T	14246	23.84
A T & T	14247	183.96
VERIZON	14248	333.74
VERIZON	14249	560.82
TRANSFORMATION ENTERPRISES	14250	4960.00
A T & T	14251	69.84
FLEET FUELING	14252	819.09
DEER PARK - NESTLE WATERS	14253	13.01
VERIZON WIRELESS	14254	203.73
BURL CO TREASURER	14255	174217.49
COMCAST	14256	95.12
ATLANTIC CITY ELECTRIC	14257	2118.53
4IMPRINT	14258	314.30
A C MOORE INC	14259	15.62
ACADEMY SECURITY	14260	60.00
BEACONS	14261	38.52
BF MOLZ	14262	180.07
BLUE STAR OF NJ	14263	147.00
BURL CO ESTC - BCIT	14264	55.00

BURL CO TREAS, LANDFILL	14265	4698.38
BURLINGTON COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER	14266	18.75
CASA PAYROLL SERVICES	14267	324.70
CONWAY AUTOMOTIVE	14268	203.00
COPIERS PLUS	14269	354.00
COURIER TIMES, INC.	14270	80.84
CRAMER'S AUTO RECYCLING, INC.	14271	25.00
D & H HAULING	14272	1000.00
DAVE'S SEPTIC	14273	912.50
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC.	14274	783.53
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM C	14275	1134.00
GANNETT NEWSPAPERS	14276	46.08
GREAT BAY REGIONAL EMS	14277	13000.00
GROSS & CO LLC	14278	14000.00
JERRY'S DIESEL & TRUCK REPAIR	14279	539.00
JOSEPH H. GROSS	14280	43.00
KLUK CONSULTANTS	14281	7042.20
KOWALSKI TIRE	14282	750.00
M. KATHLEEN MCKERNAN	14283	19.74
MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY	14284	5035.13
MUNIDEX INC	14285	1611.24
MUTUAL AID E.S.	14286	675.00
PEGGY BECK	14287	16.32
PETER C. LANGE	14288	4048.14
RICHARD IRETON	14289	90.80
RUSSELL P. CHERKOS ESQ.	14290	4500.00
SBR TIRE EXCHANGE, INC.	14291	500.00
TRANSFORMATION ENTERPRISES	14292	6200.00
TRISH HOME CENTER	14293	40.79
VERIZON	14294	598.92
W.B. MASON COMPANY	14295	417.25
WIRELESS ELECTRONICS INC	14296	95.00
BASS RIVER PAYROLL ACCOUNT	81111	14746.26
BASS RIVER PAYROLL ACCOUNT	82511	14555.99
BASS RIVER PAYROLL ACCOUNT	90811	17421.86

CORRESPONDENCE:

Email received from Ms. K. Tweedy from the Preservation & Wildlife Society. The Society wishes to make a donation of property, Block 63, Lot 6; Block 67, Lot 10; Block 63, Lot 7 and Block 67, Lot 11 to Bass River Township with the stipulation that the property remain deed restricted to all hunting, trapping and fishing and to ensure that it remain open space in perpetuity. The Board was in agreement to accept this property and Clerk was instructed to contact Ms. Tweedy.

Letter from Pierson Construction Company requesting detour of East Greenbush Road and Stage Road as part of the widening project of the Garden State Parkway. Board agreed that this would not be in the best interests of the residents and some residents present at the meeting stated they did not want the road closed. Clerk was instructed to write a letter to Pierson Construction informing them of the Board decision.

Mayor Cope read two letter submitted by Mr. Aaronson of Route 542.

Mayor cope noted the Board received a letter from the NAACP awarding Board for “Courage Under Fire” by the organization for the incident that occurred with regard to a Cross Burning in the township.

Mayor Cope read a proclamation received from the Governor’s Office with regard to September 11th activities.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 2011-64

TAX OFFICE RESOLUTION

The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution 2011-64. Votes: Cope–Yes, Bethea -Yes, Smith-Yes. All present in favor and Resolution 2011-64 where hereby approved.

RESOLUTION 2011-64

WHEREAS, The Tax Assessor approved total veteran disability status as of May 1, 2011 on the block 9.B and lot 6.A, 59 Amasa Landing Road, assessed to James S. Adams, and;

WHEREAS, The tax duplicate still shows taxes due for 2nd, 3rd, & 4th quarters 2011 & 1st & 2nd 2012 taxes, after total disability was granted May 1, 2011;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector of Bass River Township is authorized to cancel taxes in the amount of \$2,679.49.

RESOLUTION 2011-65

TAX OFFICE RESOLUTION

The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution 2011-65. Votes: Cope–Yes, Bethea -Yes, Smith-Yes. All present in favor and Resolution 2011-65 where hereby approved.

RESOLUTION 2011-65

WHEREAS, The Tax Assessor approved tax exempt status as of January 1, 2011 on the following blocks and lots, and:

WHEREAS, The tax duplicate still shows the first two quarters of 2011 taxes after this status being granted on these properties:

<i>Block</i>	<i>Lot</i>	<i>First Half 2011</i>
<i>108</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>\$183.12</i>
<i>105</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>144.21</i>
<i>104</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>241.11</i>

100	8	152.60
78	32	27.47
8.E	8	10.68
8.D	1	22.13
8.D	14	25.18

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector of Bass River Township is authorized to cancel taxes in the total amount of \$806.50 for 2011 first half on the now exempt properties.

RESOLUTION 2011-66

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING THAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES GRANT PERMISSION TO APPROVE THE INCREASE OF AN ITEM OF SPECIAL REVENUE IN THE 2011 BUDGET ENTITLED “CDBG – FY 2011 PROJECT” IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,512.00

The motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bethea to approve Resolution 2011-66. Votes: Cope–Yes, Bethea -Yes, Smith-Yes. All present in favor and Resolution 2011-66 where hereby approved.

RESOLUTION 2011-66

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BASS RIVER, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING THAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES GRANT PERMISSION TO APPROVE THE INCREASE OF AN ITEM OF SPECIAL REVENUE IN THE 2011 BUDGET ENTITLED “CDBG – FY 2011 PROJECT” IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,512.00

WHEREAS, NJS 40A-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the increase of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Bass River, County of Burlington hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the increase of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2011 in the sum of \$57,512.00; which item is now available as a revenue for the CDBG – FY 2011 Project pursuant to the provisions of statue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$57,512.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of the CDBG – FY 2011 Project.

RESOLUTION 2011-67

RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution 2011-67. Votes: Cope–Yes, Bethea -Yes, Smith-Yes. All present in favor and Resolution 2011-67 where hereby approved.

**RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE
BURLINGTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND**

WHEREAS, the Township of Bass River is a member of the Burlington County Joint Insurance Fund (hereinafter the "FUND"); and

WHEREAS, said membership terminates as of January 1, 2012 unless earlier renewed by agreement between the municipality and the FUND; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Bass River desires to renew said membership;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

- 1. The Township of Bass River agrees to renew its membership in the FUND and to be subject to the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, coverages, and operating procedures thereof as presently existing or as modified from time to time by lawful act of the FUND.*
- 2. T. Richard Bethea, Fund Commissioner, shall be and hereby is authorized to execute the "Agreement to Renew Membership" annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the FUND evidencing the
Township of Bass River's intention to renew its membership.*

RESOLUTION 2011-68

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE RESOLUTION

The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution 2011-68. Votes: Cope–Yes, Bethea -Yes, Smith-Yes. All present in favor and Resolution 2011-68 where hereby approved.

RESOLUTION 2011-68

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Bass River, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Bass River further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Bass River has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Burlington;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Bass River, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

- 1. The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Bass River does hereby authorize submission of an application for the Bass River Township Municipal Alliance grant for calendar year 2012 in the amount of \$9050.00.*

2. *The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Bass River acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.*

OLD BUSINESS:

Cramers Junkyard License Renewal—The motion to continue to table the hearing on the Junkyard License Renewal for Cramers was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bethea. All in favor. Ordered continued until September Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board of Commissioners reviewed the best practices worksheet for CY 2012 as provided by the Clerk. The motion was made by Commissioner Bethea, seconded by Commissioner Smith to certify the Board has reviewed at a public meeting the Best Practices Work Sheet for CY2012. All in favor and Clerk was hereby authorized to certify same to the State DLGS.

REPORTS:

The following reports were noted:

Report of Solicitor
Report of Municipal Court
Dog Report
Report of Safety Coordinator
Report of the Governing Body Members

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The meeting was open for public comment at 8:45 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Mayor Bethea.

Mr. H. Bourguignon asked for clarification of the property that is offered to the Township by the Preservation and Wildlife Society. Information was given.

Mr. R. Steele questioned the Park Grant awarded by Burlington County. He requested to know what it was being used for. The grant is being used at the New Gretna Park at Oak Avenue--to take care of some street lighting, tree trimming, stump grinding and removal of old dead trees for trails and to provide for parking and restrooms.

Mr. L. Bourguignon asked if the township decides to do something different with the park property. Response: This was land swapped with the State of NJ for other land and is deed restricted.

Mr. L. Bourguignon noted that in his opinion the EMT courses being paid by the Township are a waste of money.

Cramer's Junkyard commented on Mr. Aaronson's letter and noted they are working with DEP and the Township on these issues.

Being no further comments the motion to close the public portion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bethea. All in favor and public comment was closed at 9:40 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The motion to enter into executive session was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bethea. All in favor and Board entered into executive session at 9:40.

*RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 10:4-12*

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Bass River, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., it is necessary to convene an executive session to discuss items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b), specifically:

1. *Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiation, and the Attorney-Client Privilege*
 - a. *BRT v. Rothschild*
 - b. *BonRue Property*
 - c. *Plattero v. BRT*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is anticipated that the deliberation conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Governing Body that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality and if not then legally privileged.

ACTION TAKEN:

None Taken upon entering back into regular session

Being no further business to come before the Board the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Bethea. All in favor and meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Amanda S. Somes, RMC
Township Clerk

Deborah Buzby-Cope, Mayor