

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 5, 2010
6:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order

The Mayor thanked all those in attendance, publicly recognizing Freeholder Deputy Director Bill Chegwiddden and Hopatcong Mayor Sylvia Petillo and her husband Ron.

2. Roll Call

Councilman Driscoll, Councilman Sadow, Councilwoman Galate, Councilman Doran, Mayor Ondish. Borough Attorney Matthew Giacobbe was also present.

3. Adequate notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was published in the Roxbury Register and the Daily Record on November 25, 2009; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on November 23, 2009 and has been available to the public; notice of this meeting is on file in the office of the Borough Clerk.

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.). The Borough Council opens every public meeting for comments of the public. However, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 : “Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the discretion of a public body to permit, prohibit or regulate the active participation at any meeting,....”

Speakers at Borough meetings shall have five minutes to present their comments to the Borough Council so as not to consume time that would otherwise be allotted to other persons who wish to speak. Speakers shall be courteous to the Council and other persons attending the meeting. Offensive remarks or unruly behavior will not be allowed and anyone who violates this policy will be barred from participating in the meeting.

4. Flag Salute

Mount Arlington Cub Scout Pack #60 led the flag salute. The Mayor thanked the Scouts and parents for their participation. The Mayor asked the Scouts and audience to take a moment of silence to remember our troops fighting for our freedom.

5. Certification of Election

The Clerk read the Certification of Election into the record.

The Mayor welcomed Assemblyman Elect Anthony Bucco, Jr., who had just joined the audience.

6. Swearing in of New Council Members

Mayor: Will Council Member Elect Robert Sorge please step forward to be sworn in to serve a 3-year term on the Borough Council ending December 31, 2012. The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Robert Sorge.

Mayor: Will Council Member Elect John Windish please step forward to be sworn in to serve a 3-year term on the Borough Council ending December 31, 2012. The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office to Councilman John Windish.

The newly elected Council Members took their places on the dais.

7. Roll Call of the 2010 Council Members

Councilman Driscoll, Councilman Sorge, Councilman Sadow, Councilwoman Galate, Councilman Windish, Councilman Doran, Mayor Ondish.

8. Invocation

Pastor Roy Roderick delivered the Invocation.

9. Guests in Audience

The Mayor had previously recognized some of the guests in attendance.

10. Nomination of Council President for 2010

Councilman Sorge: Mayor, I nominate Nita Galate to serve as Council President for 2010.

Councilman Sadow: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Galate, Windish, Doran.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

11. Mayor's Address

The Mayor read his address into the record.

12. Appointments:

The Mayor stated that due to a small audience, the appointees requiring oaths will take the oath together at the end of the meeting.

Borough Officials

Mayor: I recommend appointment of the following Borough Officials:
Pension Certifying Official Carolyn Rinaldi - **1-year term**
Finance Office

DPW Supervisor Paul Nelson - **1-year term**

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Doran: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.

Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

Professional Services

Mayor: I recommend the following appointments for a **1-year term**:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Borough Attorney | Matthew Giacobbe, Esq. |
| Borough Auditor | Francis Jones |
| Borough Bond Counsel | John G. Hudak, Esq. |
| Borough Engineer | Daren Phil |
| Borough Planner | Donna Holmquist |
| Borough Special Bond Counsel | John M. Cantalupo, Esq. |
| Borough Special Counsel | Fred Semrau, Esq. |
| Budget Consultant | Joseph Kovalcik |
| Land Use Board Attorney | Michael Selvaggi, Esq. |
| Stormwater Management Consultant | Suburban Consulting Engineers |
| Tax Appeal Appraiser | Scott Holzhauser, CTA, SCGREA |
| Zoning Official, Technical Assistant, Land Use Board Secretary | Suburban Consulting Engineers |

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Doran: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

Mayor's Appointments

Mayor: I recommend the following appointments for a **1-year term:**

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Tax Search Officer | Patricia Simari |
| Assessment Search Officer | Linda DeSantis |
| Clean Communities Coordinator | Paul Nelson |
| Recycling Coordinator | Paul Nelson |
| Sussex County Water Quality Mgmt. Plan Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) | Doug Zellman |
| Historian | Virginia Rooney |
| Licensed Water Operator | Paul Nelson |
| Police Matron | Valerie Kourtz |
| League of Municipalities Rep. | Mayor Arthur Ondish |
| Liaison to the Board of Education | Council President Galate |
| Liaison to the Board of Health | Councilman Driscoll |
| Liaison to the Seniors Club | Councilman Doran |
| Borough Pastor | Pastor Roy Roderick |
| NJJIF Commissioner | JoAnne Sendler |
| Alternate I | Councilman Sorge |
| Public Safety Coordinator: | Chief Richard Peterson |
| Public Safety Coordinator | JoAnne Sendler |
| Public Safety Coordinator: | Paul Nelson |
| Public Safety Clerk: | Patricia Simari |
| Public Safety Clerk: | Terry Smith |
| OEM Coordinator: | Keith Licata |
| Deputy OEM Coordinator: | JoAnne Sendler |
| Deputy OEM Coordinator: | Chief Richard Peterson |
| Deputy OEM Coordinator: | Paul Nelson |
| Deputy OEM Coordinator: | Patricia Simari |
| CDRS Representative by Mayor: | Joanne Wiseberg |
| CDRS Alt. Rep. by Mayor: | Mayor Arthur Ondish |

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Sadow: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

13. Council's Appointment to CDRS (1-year term)

Councilman Sorge: I nominate Councilman Windish as Council's Representative to CDRS.

Councilman Driscoll: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

14. Council Committee Appointments

Mayor: I ask for confirmation of the following appointments to Chair the Council Committees for the **Year 2010:**

Finance:

Chair: Councilman Sadow (Galate, Windish)

Police:

Chair: Councilman Doran (Galate, Driscoll)

Personnel & Public Relations:

Chair: Council President Galate (Sorge, Driscoll)

Fire, Rescue & OEM:

Chair: Councilman Sorge (Doran, Sadow)

Parks & Recreation:

Chair: Councilman Windish (Sadow, Doran)

DPW, Buildings, Grounds & Utilities:

Chair: Councilman Driscoll (Windish, Sorge)

Councilman Doran: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Sadow: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

15. Fire Official

Mayor: I recommend the appointment of the following:
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire and Safety, as the Fire Official for the Year 2010 (**1-year term**)

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of this appointment.

Councilman Sorge: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

16. Council's Appointment to the Land Use Board

Councilman Driscoll: I nominate Council President Galate as a Class III Member of the Land Use Board for the **Year 2010.**

Councilman Sorge: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

17. Land Use Board Members

Mayor: I recommend the following appointments to the Land Use Board:
 Class I member - Mayor Arthur Ondish **(1-year term, expires 12/31/10)**
 Class II member – JoAnne Sendler, Borough Administrator **(1-year term, expires 12/31/10)**
 Maureen Cerasoli, Class IV, **(4-year term, expires 12/31/13)**.
 Frank Hughes, Class IV, **(2-year term, expires 12/31/11)**.
 Melissa Fostle, Class IV, **(4-year term, expires 12/31/13)**.
 Fran Hallowich, Alternate 4, **(filling unexpired 2-year term, expires 12/31/10)**.

Councilman Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Doran: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
 Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

18. Library Board of Trustees

Mayor: I recommend Councilman Driscoll as Mayor's Alternate to the Library Board of Trustees **for the Year 2010**.

Mayor: I recommend Fran Hallowich as Library Trustee **(5 year term, expires 12/31/14)**

Councilman Doran: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Sadow: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
 Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

19. Board of Health

Mayor: I recommend appointment of the following to the Board of Health:
 Linda Tuorinsky, **(3-year term, expires 12/31/12)**.
 Ann Marie Westerfield, **(3-year term, expires 12/31/12)**.
 Christopher W. Anderson, **(3-year term, expires 12/31/12)**.
 Patricia Simari, Board of Health Administrator **(1-year term, expires 12/31/10)**.

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Sorge: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
 Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

20. Board of Recreation Commission:

Mayor: I recommend the following appointments to the **Board of Recreation Commission:**
 Jacquelyn Coy, Full Member, **(2-year term, expires 12/31/11)**.
 Blanche Hebblewhite, Alternate I, **(2-year term, expires 12/31/11)**

Councilman Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Sadow: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

21. Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan Review Committee

Mayor: I recommend appointment of the following g to the Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan Review Committee:
Borough Representative: Councilman Doran.
Borough Alternate Representative: Council President Galate.

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Sorge: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

22. Advisory Council Appointments

Mayor: I recommend the following appointments for a 1- year term.

Building Committee

Councilman Doran

JoAnne Sendler

Daren Phil

Paul Nelson

Maureen Cerasoli

Councilman Sorge, Alternate

Citizens Budget Review Committee

Councilman Sadow

Council President Galate

Roy Morance

Joanne Wiseberg

Sheila Studint

Dick Ashton

Andrew Danchuk

Nancy Absalom

Code Book Review Committee

Council President Galate

JoAnne Sendler

Matthew Giacobbe, Esq.

Linda DeSantis

Community Emergency Response Team

Fred Huykman, RACES

Ken Eicher, SARA

Lorraine Dzidual

Kerri Ann Mulligan

Beth Ward

Dial-A-Ride Committee

Councilman Sorge
Council President Galate
Patricia Simari

Green Team Committee

Council President Galate
Daren Phil
George Cicero, Sr.
George Cicero, Jr.
Patti DiGeronimo
Frank Hughes
Lou DiFiore
David Karpman
Jane Jameson
Jacquelyn Coy
Darlene Kadel
Jonathan Smith

MAPS Student, to be named

MAPS Student, to be named

Raritan Highlands Compact

Councilman Driscoll
JoAnne Sandler

Technology Committee

Councilman Driscoll
Councilman Sorge
Councilman Windish
Police Chief Richard Peterson
Fire Chief Steve Norman
Jim Garland
John Goldin
Frank Hughes

Water & Sewer Committee

Councilman Driscoll
Councilman Doran
Daren Phil
Maureen Cerasoli
Andrew Holt
JoAnne Sandler
Paul Nelson
Layne Morris
Carolyn Rinaldi, Recording Secretary
Council President Galate, Alternate

Zoning Committee

Councilman Doran
 Council President Galate
 Councilman Windish
 Joseph Weaver
 Maureen Cerasoli
 Daren Phil
 Mike Selvaggi, Esq.
 JoAnne Sandler

Councilman Driscoll: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Doran: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
 Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

23. Borough Employees

Mayor: I recommend the continued employment of all Borough Employees who were on the payroll on December 31, 2009, except for any employees whose services with the Borough may have been terminated at or on December 31, 2009.

Councilman Sadow: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Driscoll: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
 Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

24. Council Meeting Dates for 2010

Mayor: The Open Public Meetings Law, which is commonly referred to as the "Sunshine Law," establishes the right of all citizens to have adequate advance notice of all public meetings and the right to attend meetings at which any business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon.

It also requires the official announcement during the first ten days of the New Year of all the official meeting dates. The Council Meetings will commence at 6:00 p.m. All Meetings will be held at the Municipal Building, 419 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey.

We have scheduled the Council Meetings as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Tuesday, January 5 Reorganization Meeting | Tuesday, July 6 |
| Tuesday, January 19 | |
| Tuesday, February 2 | Tuesday, August 3 |
| Tuesday, February 16 | |
| Tuesday, March 2 | Tuesday, September 7 |
| Tuesday, March 16 | Tuesday, September 21 |
| Tuesday, April 6 | Tuesday, October 5 |
| Tuesday, April 20 | Tuesday, October 19 |
| Tuesday, May 4 | Tuesday, November 9 |
| Tuesday, May 18 – 10:00 a.m. | Tuesday, November 16 |

Tuesday, June 1
Tuesday, June 15

Tuesday, December 14

25. Approval of Minutes

December 14, 2009 Regular Meeting

Councilman Doran: Motion to Approve.

Councilman Sadow: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Sadow, Council President Galate, Doran.

Nay: None.

Abstain: Driscoll, Sorge, Windish.

Motion Approved.

26. Open to the Public

Paula Danchuk, 50 Elizabeth Way:

- Ms. Danchuk asked the amount of money received from the on-line surplus auction.

The Mayor stated that once the items are paid for, the Borough will have a list of items and sales prices; the Clerk stated that at that point, the information can be obtained by OPRA request.

27. Resolutions

The following resolutions have been referred to Members of the Borough Council for reading and study and are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion of the Borough Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, the resolution may be removed and subject to a separate roll call.

Resolutions

2010-01 Resolution Establishing the Rate of Interest on Delinquent Municipal Charges for the Year 2010.

2010-02 Resolution To Allow Cancellation of Tax and Utility Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00 for the Year 2010.

2010-03 Resolution Authorizing a Tax Sale to Be Held in the Year 2010.

2010-04 Resolution Designating Official Newspapers of the Borough.

2010-05 Resolution Authorizing the Official Depositories of the Borough.

2010-06 Resolution Providing For and Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Mount Arlington to Approve Disbursements Prior to Their Payment From the Borough's Petty Cash Fund.

2010-07 Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Payroll and Other Checks.

2010-08 Resolution Authorizing Municipal Attorney and Special Counsel to Undertake Certain Actions on Behalf of the Borough on Recommendation of the Tax Assessor.

2010-09 Resolution Appointing Rich Allocca, Wachovia Insurance Services, Inc., as the Borough's Risk Management Consultant.

2010-10 Resolution Appointing New Jersey Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and Alternate I Member for the Borough of Mount Arlington.

2010-11 Resolution Adopting a Form Required To Be Used for the Filing of Notices of Tort Claims Against the Borough of Mount Arlington.

2010-12 Resolution Supporting the Lake Hopatcong Commission.

2010-13 Resolution Supporting and Participating in the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program (P.L. 1998, C. 145).

2010-15 Resolution Authorizing Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes.

Councilman Sorge: Motion to Approve Resolution #2010-01 through #2010-13 and Resolution #2010-15.

Councilman Driscoll: Second.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

2010-14 Resolution Authorizing Submission of CDRS Grant Application.

Councilman Sadow: Motion to Approve.

Councilman Driscoll: Second.

Council Discussion: Councilman Sadow stated that while he understands the Seniors need a meeting place, his concern is that the building could be used as a revenue opportunity. Daren Phil stated that the only way the Borough is eligible for a CDRS grant is if the building is used for Seniors. Mr. Phil suggested the Borough move forward on this resolution and submit the application by January 8, 2010; the CDRS presentation is in March, by which time he can research the possibility of a Senior Center and multi-use building. Council asked that Mr. Phil give a report on his findings at a Council meeting in about a month.

Roll Call: Ayes: Driscoll, Sorge, Sadow, Council President Galate, Windish, Doran.
Nay: None.

Motion Approved.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office to those appointees present. The Mayor publicly thanked the new appointees and volunteers.

28. Adjourn

Councilman Driscoll: Motion to Adjourn.

Councilman Doran: Second.

All in Favor – Aye; None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

Linda DeSantis, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Meeting of January 19, 2010.

STATEMENT OF DETERMINATION

A **STATEMENT** of Determination of the **BOARD OF CANVASSERS**, relative to an Election held in the **BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON** County of Morris and State of New Jersey, for the election of certain Municipal Officers for the Municipality on the **3rd** day of **November, 2009**.

The said Board does determine that at the said election:

| NAME | OFFICE | TERM |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Robert W. Sorge | Borough Council | 3 Years |
| John Windish | Borough Council | 3 Years |



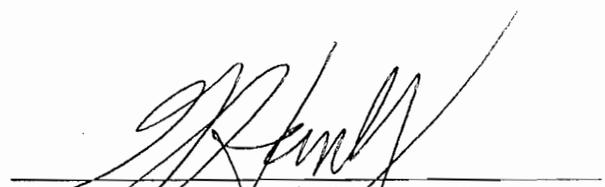
~~was or~~ were duly elected to the office and for the term above set forth.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true, full and correct statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers therein mentioned.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this **10th** day of **November, 2009**.

Attest:


Joan Bramhall
Morris County Clerk


Chairman of the Board of County Canvassers
George T. Hanley

Good evening and welcome everyone to the 2010 Mount Arlington Reorganization meeting. It is a pleasure to see everyone here to bear witness to our government and the people who will continue to be involved and for those who are new. This is a very important meeting because this meeting puts the team in place who will serve the Borough through the year 2010.

First I would like to congratulate Councilman Bob Sorge for his re-election and our newly elected Councilman John Windish for his successful election. They will both serve the Borough through the next 3 years. Councilman Sorge has been in service for 10 years and this will be the first term for Councilman Windish. I look forward to working with you both as well as our sitting veteran Councilmember's. I am very fortunate to have a fine and seasoned group of individuals to share the responsibility of managing the Borough. I also would like to acknowledge and thank former Councilwoman Ceresoli for her 11 years of service to the Borough.

I want to thank JoAnne Sendler our diligent Administrator for what seems like endless hours contributed to working with all of us to keep things moving forward in a positive way. She along with our professionals, the Borough employees, and the many volunteers are why Mount Arlington is in such great standing. Without this great team of elected officials, professionals, employees and volunteers we would not be able to move forward and accomplish the many goals we set for 2009. Making this Borough successful is a team effort and I am very proud to be the leader as Mayor. I want to also recognize our diligent Borough Clerk Linda DeSantis who keeps things in order as well as Tina Meyer who steps in when Linda is away.

2010 has certainly been an exciting year. It was a very busy year for me as your Mayor. I looked back and counted the meetings

and events I attended as a representative of Mount Arlington and noted 155 meetings. Some of those involved the following:

16 were Council regular and special meetings.

21 meetings were in Trenton dealing with the state and or Governor

19 were in New Brunswick as a member of the Mayors Committee for a Green Future.

4 were events at Picatinny Arsenal.

3 were at State Police HQ in West Trenton dealing with emergency management and safety.

16 dealt with the Lake Hopatcong Commission, 4 with the Mayors from around the lake to discuss the impact of the lack of maintenance on our towns.

22 were dealing with NJ League of Municipalities issues.

3 were dealing with NJ Conference of Mayors.

2 Eagle Scout Ceremonies where 3 wonderful young men obtained the rank of Eagle

19 Weddings were officiated over the past year.

4 were with the Raritan Highlands Compact. We will have a rain garden installed in the spring at MAPS with the RHC providing all the materials.

6 were with the Morris County League of Municipalities. I anticipate more in the coming 2 years since I will be serving as President.

That does not include the many residents I met with and assisted with a variety of issues. Let's not even mention the many phone calls and correspondence that I have been a part.

I just wanted to give you a sampling of the ways I am working as a representative of our Borough. I must thank CHA, my employer, for understanding, supporting, and affording me the ability and time to serve Mount Arlington.

Most importantly I want to thank my wife Yvonne for understanding how important my community service is to me. Much of our time together is sacrificed while I am at meetings and events. I am not sure if anyone understands that it is not just my life that is impacted by serving but hers and my families. There have been many times when I miss family events or have to leave early. I, just like all public servants, owe a debt of gratitude to our spouses and families for understanding our desire to serve and for supporting our efforts.

From a state perspective, I am pleased to have developed a good working relationship with our leaders in Trenton. I want to publically thank Governor Corzine for his service to our state. He was always gracious to me and his staff did help Mount Arlington with several issues over the last 4 years most recently was Mount Arlington being the only town in Morris County to receive extraordinary aide in the amount of 320 thousand dollars. I want to thank Acting Commissioner Richman for his recognition of Mount Arlington and his decision to grant our request for aid. I also want to publically thank DEP Commissioner Mauriello as well as Deputy Commissioner Baier for their help with environmental and water issues that Mount Arlington was involved with. They were always gracious and helpful to find a solution for us to satisfy our needs. Extra time and effort were needed but we were successful for the most part. We now have sewer and water installed and ready to serve 48 homes in the Highlands Water Protection Preservation Area.

I look forward to working with our new Governor Chris Christie after he takes office on January 19th. It is exciting to look forward to working with a Governor from Morris County and a former Morris County Freeholder. I believe it has been close to 100 years since the Governor was from Morris County. I know Chris is a great guy with the guts to do what is needed to be done to make things better in the long run. I look forward to learning who will

be in his new Administration. I will certainly work closely with all of his new appointed leaders. The new administration will face many issues as they take the reigns of New Jersey. There will be many hard choices to be made that will not be popular but that is what is going to be needed to get this state back on the right track. We are all in this together and working together will be the only way we can make a difference. We will face a local tax increase this year. We are working hard to keep it as minimal as possible. We will have our Citizens Budget Review Committee meet to review the budget and offer suggestions. Anyone with ideas or constructive feedback is more than welcome to contact us and we can discuss your suggestions.

As I have said in prior years, we enjoyed many years of new construction and additional revenues coming into the Borough. I said that one day that would end and we would have to work with what we have. That day has come. Between the lack of land and the Highlands Preservation Act we will not see much more new construction within the Borough. We have 2 office buildings and one more 70 unit development that will eventually be constructed and that is really the end of development in Mount Arlington. These last projects have been held up for quite some time due to sewer and water allocation issues. Last month I facilitated a meeting focused on finding compromise and solutions to the remaining issues. I think it was a good meeting and I look forward to progress. These are very important new rateables that will help our budget.

I want to thank Councilwoman Galate and Mount Arlington School Superintendant Jane Jamison and our MAGIC team, that would be Mount Arlington Green Initiatives Committee. This is the team that was created to work with a NJ League of Municipalities program called Sustainable Jersey. This is a great program that I had a part in crafting in my position on the board of the Mayors Committee for a Green Future. Over 250

municipalities statewide, so far, have committed to being part of Sustainable Jersey, Mount Arlington being one of the first. To learn more about this program the next time you are online, go to [Sustainable Jersey.com](http://SustainableJersey.com).

I am pleased with the relationship that I have with Superintendent Jamison as well as our school board. I commend our school district for all of the great accomplishments being recognized at our schools. I know they are dealing with budget issues the same as we are in dealing with service to the Community. I look forward to working with them in the future to continue to find ways we can work together to mutually serve Mount Arlington. We already have had many opportunities to save tax payer dollars by sharing services and finding solutions to issues. I look for that to only expand.

Through the League of Municipalities we were invited to be involved in a program called the “Mayors Book Club.” The program focuses on teaching young children to read and providing materials. Later this month we will have our first delivery of books to be distributed. It is great to work with Jane and be able to make a difference.

Now let me focus on what capital improvement projects that were accomplished in 2009:

- We completed phase one of the Orben Drive reconstruction
- We remodeled our Municipal Dock and revamped the beach area
- We completed the Village Storm water Control project. That included new storm water infrastructure to take the water from the center of town and channel it appropriately to Lake Hopatcong. Working with the Lake Hopatcong Commission, a 4 chamber sand filter was installed in the parking lot of our

municipal beach. The funding for this filter that will help improve the water quality of Lake Hopatcong came from the EPA through a grant to the Lake Hopatcong Commission.

- We purchased a new fire truck.
- We completed our 10 year journey to get the first phase of the Streetscape project completed and I am thrilled with the results.
- We installed sewer infrastructure and road reconstruction on Southard, Parker and Circle after an almost 5 year approval process since this falls in the preservation area of the Highlands Water Protection Act.
- We completed renovations of the interior of the Firehouse to better serve our fire department and Saint Clare's emergency personnel.

I looked back at my reorganization speech from last year and focused in on the goals set. We said we were going to complete the capital projects that were in the works and evaluate future projects based on the economy. Those projects completed were funded mostly out of grant money. We have had great success in receiving Department of Transportation (DOT) grant money for projects we submit. As of now we have not submitted for any grant money, due to the match funding we would have to raise, for 2011. For this year our goals are to complete the following:

- We are striving to be the first town in the Highlands Preservation area to do a brown-field redevelopment. We are looking into turning our old landfill into a municipal parking and storage lot. Over the top of the lot we would like to install solar panels to generate revenue for the Borough. This would be 2 revenue streams. We have applied to the Highlands Council for grant money for the cost of planning this project and have preliminary approval for 50k. We have

already been to Trenton to meet with the appropriate authorities. We have been greeted with enthusiasm for this project so I hope to see it begin and come to fruition.

- We applied for and received a DOT grant of 195k for the extension of the streetscape project from Altenbrand Ave to Memorial Park.
- We are working with NJ Transit to have sidewalks installed to connect the train station to our existing network of sidewalks. This will be funded out of a grant from the state.
- We will be installing new water lines, through a grant, on Hopatcong, Edgemere and Arlington Ave. With this will be the reconstruction and repaving of these roads. I am hopeful to somehow get a water line to Dunlop Street since those residents have been waiting for years for a good water supply.

There may be other things that come about but we really can not foresee what is going to happen with the economy so we are cutting back. If the opportunity arises to accomplish more, without raising taxes, we will reevaluate.

Unfortunately my predictions from last year came to fruition. I told everyone at last years reorganization meeting that the state was in big financial trouble. Governor Corzine told the Mayors that we were headed for trouble and it has come to be. This will mean less money coming from the state to help offset the rising costs. There is very little wiggle room in our budget. About 15% of our budget is discretionary. The other 85% is fixed. What I mean by that is it all goes to pay set expenses like insurance, pension costs, debt payment and health care costs. These are things we do not control. We continually evaluate and look for savings but these are fixed costs for the most part. What we have done, over the past year to reduce our expenses is the following:

- We entered into a shared Court agreement with Rockaway Borough, Wharton, Mine Hill and Dover. Our court is now located in Dover as a shared service. We will see an expense reduction of 60-70k due to entering into this shared service agreement.
- We have entered into a shared service of our Construction Department with Jefferson Twp.
- We eliminated our local assistance board director and went into a shared service with Morris County for this important service. The County can provide the service for less of an expense than our trying to keep it local.
- We have not replaced open positions at our Department of Public Works. Instead, our staff is doing more with less.
- We changed the way meals are delivered to those in need. This is a service known as meals on wheels. This service is now provided through the County instead of the Borough.

We will continue to explore areas where we can share services in order to reduce our expenses. This just makes sense. We do not want to, and have not eliminated services, except our chipping service that was very minimally used. We want to continue to provide all the services that our residents enjoy. We will continue to find ways to do so at less cost. At the same time we will be looking at new ways to raise revenue.

With the completion of the first phase of the Streetscape project I hope to have more businesses have in interest in locating in Mount Arlington. We can look forward to a new discount liquor store opening up in early 2010. The store will operate under the liquor license that was previously owned by Tappens. I have heard rumor that someone is interested in opening a bakery in town. We have had a local pharmacy that recently opened as well as a new coffee shop. I encourage everyone to please support our local businesses.

I look forward to rekindling and growing a local chamber of commerce or Municipal alliance here in Mount Arlington. There are over 115 businesses located within our Borough and after discussions with the Council, a letter has been drafted and will be going out very shortly. This letter invites all of our businesses to come to a meeting to discuss a new organization. In these tough economic times we need to learn how we can work closer with our local businesses. They are, in fact, the foundation for our local, state and federal economy. I look forward to our first meeting.

Let me just make mention of another very important issue facing all of us. That would be the lack of funding for the Lake Hopatcong Commission to maintain Lake Hopatcong. This is a very important issue because if the quality of the lake goes down, there is a chance of lakefront homeowners filing for tax appeals. If this happens, guess where the money will have to be made up from? It will come from everyone else in town. I continue to be the Chairman of the Lake Hopatcong Commission. This is something I have been committed to for the past 5 years. I have tried to establish a sustainable funding source but there are those who want to continue to pursue the already financially stressed state of NJ for the funding. I just don't see it happening. It is a shame since the LHC has done a great job over the last 8 years improving the water quality and maintaining the lake. I hope I am wrong and funding can be found. For more information about this dilemma, please feel free to call me to discuss or visit the Lake Hopatcong Commission website.

I want to thank our fire department for all of their hard work and dedication this past year. Chief Norman and our volunteers have had their share of calls this year. Between problems on Route 80 and an unusual number of house fires, they have been very busy. We even had an unfortunate fire at Councilman Sadows house and I know he saw them first hand in their duties. I know he was very pleased with the professional way they came to his aid.

I want to thank the Mount Arlington Fire Department Board of Trustees who continue to work with us to avoid problems and miscommunications. I applaud the fundraising events that have been held over this past year. They have all been very successful and that is due to the hard work of our volunteers. Thank God no one has been seriously injured in the line of duty this past year. I appreciate the safety measures taken to ensure that everyone remains safe. Safety is, after all, the number one priority.

I want to thank our Police Department for their dedication and service to the Borough. Under the leadership of our Chief Rich Peterson, Mount Arlington's finest have done a tremendous job this past year. There were several incidents that were unusual but they responded with the upmost professionalism and dedication. Thank you and keep up the good work.

I want to thank Saint Clare's for the service they provide to our Borough. Thank you and keep up the good work. I hope you enjoy your new quarters at the main firehouse.

I want to thank Paul Nelson and our DPW. I don't worry about snowstorms because I know the roads will be in good shape because of our great staff. Our infrastructure is also well maintained by our trained staff.

I want to thank the staff at the Borough Hall. They do a great job serving our residents. I could go on and talk about each one of them but let's just say thank you to all for your good work. Keep it up.

I want to thank our local health office, a shared service with Mount Olive, for their good work in organizing and running an HINI clinic in Mount Arlington. I believe over 700 vaccinations were given the day of the clinic and it ran very smooth due to the organizing and procedures followed by our local health office. It is

good to know that if something of a health emergency occurs, we can count on them to make sure we are kept up to date with the most current information and materials to maintain our health needs.

It wouldn't be complete if I did not make mention of our great professionals that help keep Mount Arlington on the right track. Suburban Consulting Engineers, Daren Phil and his team, are to be commended for helping the Borough in a variety of areas. I want to note that over the past ten years Suburban has obtained over 4.2 million dollars worth of grants for Mount Arlington. That is something to be proud of and I look forward to more to come. This doesn't include the grant we are working on to connect the sidewalks from the train station to our existing sidewalk network. Joe Weaver now serves as our zoning officer. Zoning has been something we have not focused on in the past maybe as much as we should have. Now we are focused on it and Joe, in doing his job, is not making a lot of friends. It is like anything else; we made changes in our zoning ordinances to focus on safety and visual pollution issues. The changes were focused on certain areas but there are others who got caught in the net. Things that have gone on for a long time had to change and of course change is hard for some to adapt to. In the end, I think it is going to continue to make Mount Arlington a better and safer community. Thank you Joe, for your diligence and good work. Reyna Burger is now our construction technician and a part of our new shared service with Jefferson Twp. I am very pleased with how this arrangement is working and I thank those involved for making it work. Please do keep up the good work.

Matt Giacobbe of Scarinci and Hollenbeck has proven to be a great attorney to work with. Matt has done a suburb job representing the Borough as well as advising us in areas where advise is needed. I look forward to working with Matt, Mitch, Tom and the rest of the staff to continue making prudent decisions.

Mike Selvaggi of Courter Colbert had done a great job representing our Land Use board and providing prudent advice. The rest of our professionals know the good work they have done and my thanks to each and every one.

With that said, I will say that Mount Arlington is set to continue to improve and make it through this period of uncertainty. Together with this Council, our professionals and volunteers we will continue to strive to make Mount Arlington the best place to live in Morris County, the great State of New Jersey and even the Nation.

God Bless you all and God Bless our armed forces without whom we would not be able to enjoy our freedom to exist as we do. Remember them and their families in your prayers for they do sacrifice everything for us.

Thank you.