

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON  
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 3, 2013  
7:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call**

Councilman Stanzilis, Councilman Sadow, Councilwoman Danchuk, Councilman Cangiano, Mayor Ondish. Matthew O'Donnell, Esq., Borough Attorney, and Carolyn Rinaldi, CFO/Municipal Administrator, were 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 Daily Record on December 22, 2012; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on December 21, 2012 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.

**4. Flag Salute**

Mount Arlington Boy Scout Troop #188 led the Flag Salute.

**5. Certification of Election**

The Clerk read the Certification of Election into the record.

**6. Swearing in of New Council Members**

Council Members Robert Sorge and John Windish individually took their oaths to serve 3-year terms on the Borough Council, ending December 31, 2015.

**7. Roll Call of the 2013 Council Members**

Councilman Windish, Councilman Stanzilis, Councilman Sadow, Councilwoman Danchuk, Councilman Cangiano, Councilman Sorge, Mayor Ondish.

**8. Invocation**

The Mayor delivered an impromptu but heartfelt Invocation; Pastor Roy Roderick was not able to attend.

## 9. Guests in Audience

The Mayor recognized numerous guests in the audience and expressed his thanks for their attendance and support.

## 10. Nomination of Council President for 2013

Motion to Nominate Councilman Robert Sorge as Council President for 2013:

Councilman Windish.

Second: Councilman Cangiano.

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano.

Abstain: Sorge.

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

## 11. Mayor's Address

The Mayor read his address into the record.

## 12. Appointments:

The Mayor recommended the following Borough Official appointments:

Pension Certifying Official Terry Smith, Treasurer

DPW Supervisor Paul Nelson

Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Mayor recommended the following Professional Services appointments for 2013:

Borough Attorney	Matthew J. O'Donnell, Esq.
Borough Auditor	Nisivoccia LLP
Borough Bond Counsel	John Hudak, Esq.
Borough Engineer	Suburban Consulting Engineers
Borough Special Engineer	CP Engineering LLC
Borough Special Engineer	Alaimo Group Cons. Engineers
Borough Planner	J. Caldwell Associates, Inc.
Borough Special Planner	Ritter & Plante Associates
Borough Special Counsel	Fred Semrau, Esq.
Borough Special Bond Counsel	John M. Cantalupo, Esq.
Budget Consultant	Joseph Kovalcik
Grant Consultants	Bruno Associates, Inc.
Land Use Board Attorney	Michael Selvaggi, Esq.
Stormwater Management Consultant	Suburban Consulting Engineers
Tax Appeal Appraiser	Scott Holzhauer, CTA, SCGRE
Zoning Official, Technical Assistant	Suburban Consulting Engineers

**Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge**

**Second: Councilman Sadow**

**Roll Call:**

**Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge  
None Opposed.**

**Motion Approved.**

**The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.**

**The Mayor recommended the following appointments for 2013:**

<b>Tax Search Officer</b>	<b>Patricia Simari</b>
<b>Assessment Search Officer</b>	<b>Linda DeSantis</b>
<b>Clean Communities Coordinator</b>	<b>Paul Nelson</b>
<b>Recycling Coordinator</b>	<b>Paul Nelson</b>
<b>Sussex County Water Quality Mgmt. Plan Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)</b>	<b>Doug Zellman</b>
<b>County Open Space Committee</b>	<b>Councilwoman Danchuk</b>
<b>Licensed Water Operator</b>	<b>Paul Nelson</b>
<b>Police Matron</b>	<b>Valerie Kourtz</b>
<b>League of Municipalities Rep.</b>	<b>Mayor Arthur Ondish</b>
<b>Liaison to the Board of Education</b>	<b>Councilman Stanzilis</b>
<b>Liaison to the Board of Health</b>	<b>Councilman Cangiano</b>
<b>Liaison to the Seniors Club</b>	<b>Councilman Sadow</b>
<b>Borough Pastor</b>	<b>Pastor Roy Roderick</b>
<b>MCJIF Commissioner</b>	<b>Carolyn Rinaldi</b>
<b>Alternate I</b>	<b>Councilman Cangiano</b>
<b>Public Safety Coordinator</b>	<b>Police Chief Keith Licata</b>
<b>Public Safety Coordinator</b>	<b>Paul Nelson</b>
<b>Public Safety Clerk</b>	<b>Patricia Simari</b>
<b>Public Safety Clerk</b>	<b>Terry Smith</b>
<b>OEM Coordinator</b>	<b>Police Chief Keith Licata</b>
<b>Deputy OEM Coordinator</b>	<b>Fire Chief Steve Norman</b>
<b>Deputy OEM Coordinator</b>	<b>Paul Nelson</b>
<b>Deputy OEM Coordinator</b>	<b>Patricia Simari</b>
<b>CDRS Representative by Mayor</b>	<b>Brian Kincaid</b>
<b>CDRS Alt. Rep. by Mayor</b>	<b>Mayor Arthur Ondish</b>
<b>Chief Financial Officer</b>	<b>Carolyn Rinaldi</b>

**Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge**

**Second: Councilman Stanzilis**

**Roll Call:**

**Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge  
None Opposed.**

**Motion Approved.**

**The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.**

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

Motion to Nominate Councilman Sadow as Council's Representative to CDRS:

Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

Abstain: Sadow

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

### 14. Council Committee Appointments

#### **Finance:**

Chair: Councilwoman Danchuk

Members: Stanzilis, Sadow

#### **Police:**

Chair: Councilman Stanzilis

Members: Sorge, Windish

#### **Personnel & Public Relations:**

Chair: Councilman Cangiano

Members: Sorge, Windish

#### **Fire, Rescue & OEM:**

Chair: Council President Sorge

Members: Sadow, Cangiano

#### **Parks & Recreation:**

Chair: Councilman Windish

Members: Cangiano, Danchuk

#### **DPW, Buildings, Grounds & Utilities:**

Chair: Councilman Sadow

Members: Danchuk, Stanzilis

Motion to Approve Council Committee Appointments: Councilman Sadow

Second: Council President Sorge

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President  
Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

### 15. Fire Department Officers & Fire Official

Fire Chief: Steve Norman

Assistant Chief: Brian Shatzel

Captain: Aitor Ostolaza

Lieutenant: Nick Lima

Engineer: Brian Foote

Motion to Approve Fire Department Officer Appointments: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office

Motion to Approve Fire Official Appointment: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

#### **16. Council's Appointment to the Land Use Board**

Motion to Nominate Councilman Windish as a Class III Member of the Land Use Board for the Year 2013: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

#### **17. Land Use Board Members**

Class I Member - Mayor Arthur Ondish (1-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Class II Member – Carolyn Rinaldi, Borough Employee (1-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Class III Member – Councilman Windish (1-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Class IV Member – Rob VanDenHende (2-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Class IV Member - Marguerite Wilson (2-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Class IV Member – Melissa Fostle (unexpired 4-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Class IV Member – Maureen Cerasoli (unexpired 4-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Class IV Member – Ray Simard (unexpired 4-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Class IV Member – Lee Loughridge (unexpired 4-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Alternate 1 Member – Tom Foley (unexpired 3-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Alternate 2 Member – Fran Hallowich (unexpired 2-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Alternate 3 Member – John Driscoll (2-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Alternate 4 Member – Bill Keuntje (2-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Motion to Approve Land Use Board Appointments: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Stanzilis

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office

**18. Library Board of Trustees**

Motion to Approve Mayor's Alternate to the Library Board of Trustees: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**Library Board of Trustees:**

Maureen Cerasoli, President (5-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Fran Hallowich, Secretary (5-year term, expires 12/31/14)

John Driscoll, Treasurer (5-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Jackie Coy, (5-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Anna Travers, (5 year term, expires 12/31/15)

Ana VanDenHende, (5-year term, expires 12/31/17)

Sheila Studint, (5-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Mayor Arthur Ondish

Council President Sorge, Mayor's Alternate, (1-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Jane Jameson, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Nadzeika, Superintendent's Alternate, (1-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Motion to Approve the Library Board of Trustees: Councilman Cangiano

Second: Council President Sorge

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office

**19. Board of Health**

Christopher Anderson, President (3-year term, expires 12/31/15)

Anne Marie Westerfield, Vice President (3-year term, expires 12/31/15)

Linda Tuorinsky (3-year term, expires 12/31/15)

Anne Puskas, Member (3-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Roy Morance, Member (3-year term, expires 12/31/14)

Laura O'Reilly-Stanzilis, (3-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Patti DiGeronimo, (3-year term, expires 12/31/13)

Frank Wilpert, Health Officer

Patricia Simari, Board of Health Administrator (1-year term, expires 12/31/13).

Motion to Approve the Board of Health Members: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**20. Board of Recreation Commission:**

Mike Strickler, (5-year term, expires 12/31/14)  
 Emil Cardona, (5-year term, expires 12/31/15)  
 Edwin Botero, (5-year term, expires 12/31/16)  
 Ruth Stone, (5-year term, expires 12/31/17)  
 Sharon McDonald, (5-year term, expires 12/31/13)  
 James Matthews, (5-year term, expires 12/31/17)  
 Holly Bisson, (5-year term, expires 12/31/13)  
 Kathy Appleby, Alt. #1 (5-year term, expires 12/31/15)  
 Paul Metz, Alt. #2 (5-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Motion to Approve the Board of Recreation Commission: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Windish

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge  
 None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**21. Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan Review Committee**

Borough Representative: William Doran.

Borough Alternate Representative: Councilman Cangiano.

Motion to Approve the Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan Review  
 Committee: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilwoman Danchuk

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge  
 None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**22. Lake Hopatcong Commission**

Borough Representative: Tom Foley, (2-year term, expires 12/31/14).

Borough Alternate Representative: Anne Pravs, (2- year term, expires 12/31/14).

Motion to Approve the Lake Hopatcong Commission: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Cangiano

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President Sorge  
 None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**23. Advisory Council Appointments**

Advisory Council Members are appointed for a 1-year term.

**Board of Education Working Committee**

Councilman Stanzilis, Chair

Council President Sorge

Councilman Sadow

**Building Committee**

Councilman Cangiano, Chair

Councilman Sadow

Councilman Stanzilis

Daren Phil

Paul Nelson

Maureen Cerasoli

Council President Sorge, Alternate

Carolyn Rinaldi

**Citizens Financial Advisory Committee**

Councilman Sadow, Chair

Councilman Cangiano

Roy Morance

Joanne Wiseberg

Sheila Studint

Andrew Danchuk

Nancy Absalon

Carolyn Rinaldi

**Code Committee**

Councilman Cangiano

Councilman Windish

Carolyn Rinaldi

Linda DeSantis

Matthew O'Donnell, Esq.

**Fun Day Committee**

Councilman Cangiano

Councilman Stanzilis

Chief Keith Licata

Chief Steve Norman

Paul Nelson

Carolyn Rinaldi

Holly Bisson

Brenda Temple

Jackie Coy

Mike Strickler

Emil Cardona

**Green Team Committee**

Councilman Cangiano, Chair

Councilman Stanzilis

Carolyn Rinaldi, Mayor's Appointment

Erin Abline, Mayor's Appointment

Daren Phil

Paul Nelson

Jane Jameson

Jacquelyn Coy

Darlene Kadel  
 Nita Galate  
 Jonathan Smith  
 Marie Rotondella  
 Heidi Roldan  
 Caitlin Doran  
 Debbie Wefferling  
 MAPS Student, to be named  
 MAPS Student, to be named  
**Landfill Committee**  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Wendy Maler  
**Master Plan Committee**  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Councilman Stanzilis  
 Councilman Cangiano  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Maureen Cerasoli  
 Daren Phil  
 Michael Selvaggi  
 J Caldwell & Associates  
 Carolyn Rinaldi  
**Mayor's Wellness Committee**  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Councilman Stanzilis  
 Helen Giles  
 Judith Loughridge  
 James Matthews  
 Christopher Merker  
 Leann Phil  
 Marie Rotondella  
 Laura O'Reilly Stanzilis  
**Technology Committee**  
 Councilman Windish, Chair  
 Council President Sorge  
 Councilman Sadow, Alternate  
 Chief Keith Licata  
 Fire Chief Steve Norman  
 John Driscoll  
 Matt Zuccaro  
**Water & Sewer Committee**  
 Councilwoman Danchuk, Chair  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Councilman Stanzilis  
 Paul Nelson

Daren Phil  
 Maureen Cerasoli  
 Andrew Holt  
 Councilman Windish, Alternate  
 Carolyn Rinaldi  
**Zoning Committee**  
 Council President Sorge, Chair  
 Councilman Stanzilis  
 Councilman Windish  
 Councilman Cangiano, Alternate  
 Erin Abline  
 Maureen Cerasoli  
 Mike Selvaggi, Esq.  
 Carolyn Rinaldi

Motion to Approve the Advisory Council Appointments: Council President  
 Sorge

Second: Councilwoman Danchuk

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President  
 Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

#### **24. Borough Employees**

The Mayor recommended the continued employment of all Borough Employees who were on the payroll on December 31, 2012, except for any employees whose services with the Borough may have been terminated at or on December 31, 2012.

Motion to Approve: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President  
 Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

#### **25. Council Meeting Dates for 2013**

The Mayor stated 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 7:00 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:

Thursday, January 3	Reorganization Meeting
Tuesday, January 15	Tuesday, July 2
Tuesday, February 5	Tuesday, August 6
Tuesday, March 5	Tuesday, September 3
Tuesday, April 2	Tuesday, October 1
Tuesday, May 7 10:00 a.m.	Tuesday, November 12
Tuesday, June 11	Tuesday, December 3

I think that it will be useful for me to mention at this time that the law specifies nine exceptions to the requirement for admitting the public to meetings. They are:

- (1) Matters ruled confidential by law.
- (2) Matters which would impair monies.
- (3) Matters constituting invasion of individual privacy.
- (4) Matters involving collective bargaining including negotiations.
- (5) Tactics and techniques involving protection, public safety and property and investigations of possible violations.
- (6) Matters involving acquisition of real property and investment of funds.
- (7) Litigation, contract negotiations, or matters involving attorney client relationship.
- (8) Personnel matters: hiring, firing, discipline, etc.
- (9) Deliberations after public hearing that may result in civil penalty or loss of license or permit.

## 26. Public Comment

Ana VanDenHende, 505 Windermere Avenue:

- Thanked the Mayor and Council and all those who assisted during Hurricane Sandy.

## 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

- 2013-01** Resolution Establishing the Rate of Interest on Delinquent Municipal Charges for the Year 2013.
- 2013-02** Resolution To Allow Cancellation of Tax and Utility Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00 for the Year 2013.
- 2013-03** Resolution Authorizing a Tax Sale to Be Held in the Year 2013.
- 2013-04** Resolution Designating Official Newspapers of the Borough.
- 2013-05** Resolution Authorizing the Official Depositories of the Borough.
- 2013-06** 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.

- 2013-07 Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Payroll and Other Checks.
- 2013-08 Resolution Authorizing Municipal Attorney to Undertake Certain Actions on Behalf of the Borough on Recommendation of the Tax Assessor.
- 2013-09 Resolution Appointing Rich Allocca, Advent Insurance Services, Inc., as the Borough's Risk Management Consultant.
- 2013-10 Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Risk Management Consultant's Agreement.
- 2013-11 Resolution Appointing Morris County Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and Alternate I Member for the Borough of Mount Arlington.
- 2013-12 Resolution Adopting a Form Required To Be Used for the Filing of Notices of Tort Claims Against the Borough of Mount Arlington.
- 2013-13 Resolution Supporting the Lake Hopatcong Commission.
- 2013-14 Resolution Supporting and Participating in the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program (P.L. 1998, C. 145).
- 2013-15 Resolution Authorizing Professional Services Contracts for the Calendar Year 2013.
- 2013-16 Resolution Appointing the Local Emergency Planning Council.
- 2013-17 Resolution Authorizing Creation of Community Emergency Response Team.
- 2013-18 Resolution Authorizing Execution of Interlocal Services Agreement with the County of Morris. (Radio Dispatching)
- 2013-19 Resolution Delineating Salary Amounts and Rates.
- 2013-20 Resolution Authorizing Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes.
- 2013-21 Resolution Authorizing Petty Cash.
- 2013-22 Resolution Authorizing Recreation Commission Petty Cash.

Motion to Approve the Resolutions as Read by Title by the Borough Attorney:  
Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Sadow

Roll Call:

Aye: Windish, Stanzilis, Sadow, Danchuk, Cangiano, Council President  
Sorge

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

## 28. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Sorge

Second: Councilman Windish

Roll Call:

All in Favor - Aye

None Opposed

Motion Approved.



Linda DeSantis, R.M.C.  
Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved at Council Meeting of January 15, 2013.

**Good evening and Happy New Year. I wish you health and prosperity in 2013. Thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend this reorganization meeting. This meeting is very important as it is in every municipality. This meeting puts the team in place who will serve our Borough during the year 2013.**

**I would like to congratulate Council President Bob Sorge and Councilman Windish on their successful reelection to serve our Borough. I look forward to working with all of you. Also not to be forgotten are the spouses and families of all of the members of Council and my own wife for their support and patience. Let us not forget that they are left alone while we are all serving our residents.**

**I thank our Staff here in the Borough Hall. There is a small staff here in the building but they all work together to make sure that our residents are taken care of and the work gets done. We found it efficient to outsource our Construction Clerk for a few years. As things change we decided to bring construction back into this building. It is working well and we will continue to monitor all efficiencies and operations of the Borough to be sure we are doing the best we can. Thanks to our Administrator Carolyn Rinaldi who has held just about every position in the Borough, she has a good handle on things and makes great recommendations to myself and the Council on ways to increase efficiency.**

**I thank our professionals who continue to provide sound advice to myself and the Council.**

**I thank our many volunteers who selflessly serve our Borough. The members of the different boards and committees are to be commended for their time and energy dealing with the work of our Borough. We could not survive without them!**

**I thank our police department for their good work. We added two officers to our great department. It was an honor to see them both graduate the academy and be sworn in as Mt Arlington Police Officers in January. Welcome Officers Matthew Fortunato and Officer Ryan Sherburne. They join a great team who continue to maintain good order and assist our residents in the most professional way under the solid leadership of Chief Licata. On the job as Chief for just under a year now, Keith has seen more than many chiefs in their entire careers. We are blessed to have him and thank you Keith for your leadership and dedication to this department. This was a special year with our Mayors Wellness 5 k run in honor of Officer Joe Wargo. It was a great event that brought many together for a great cause as Joe would have wanted. We pray for the safety of all of our officers as they continue to serve and protect us each and every day.**

**I thank our Fire Department for their diligence in responding to the needs of our residents. Thanks to outgoing Chief Morsch for his leadership and I look forward to working with incoming Chief Norman, again! This guy is a glutton for punishment! We are blessed to have someone like Steve who is willing to take on the responsibility of Chief once again. Thank you Chief Steve Norman. I want to take a moment to remind everyone that these volunteers respond to calls at all hours of the night and day. Many calls are due to low or failed batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Please be sure to change your batteries on a regular basis. These men and women have jobs and families who are impacted every time they respond to calls. Especially when it is in the wee hours of the morning and they need to go to work in the morning. Thanks to all of you for your dedication and devotion to serve.**

**I thank our Department of Public Works for all their good work. Under Paul Nelson's leadership the staff does a great job keeping our Borough operating smoothly. They are there when we need them. We have a very dedicated and dependable staff that I am very proud to call our team!**

**I thank Saint Clare's for serving our community with great pride and tradition. I know they are a contracted service but they are members of our family here in Mount Arlington and serve us well.**

**I thank our School Board and School Superintendant Jane Jamison for the good work they do. Our schools have received many awards. I urge you to attend School Board meetings to hear about the good things going on within our schools. We continue to work together with the School Board and are always exploring opportunities to share additional services and assist in order to reduce costs.**

**Well it appears the world didn't end on Dec 21 as the Mayans had predicted. It seems there are some very serious challenges that face us in the New Year. It seems this talk of the "fiscal cliff" issue in Washington has to be a concern to all of us. As of today I understand they have come to some sort of compromise but not a full resolve. I am very concerned with the lack of ability, of these elected leaders, to work together to implement solutions to the many issues that face our Great Nation. I pray that they will get it together sooner rather than later and we will all benefit from a better planned future.**

**I am also very concerned about our state legislators and their ability to work together to resolve our state issues. I see legislation coming out of Trenton dealing with trivial issues rather than fixes to some major problems. I know I personally**

**testified against S-2 which is legislation that will create a voter penalty if voters decide against recommendations from Trenton on the implementation of shares services or consolidation mandates. This is bad legislation that creates a slippery slope state wide. S-2 has been approved through the state Senate. I only hope our Assembly will see this legislation for what it is and not let it through. I urge you to contact our state legislators and tell them this is bad legislation. You can visit the League of Municipalities web site to review the legislation and the details.**

**We must keep a close watch on what the legislators continue to do in Trenton. We work very hard to make sure we are diligent and are as fiscally responsible to our taxpayers as we can be. I am not sure that the legislators understand how some of the legislation they come up with affects us locally. It is the job of the League of Municipalities and the Conference of Mayors to monitor this legislation and make us aware when something being proposed is detrimental to us. Then we need to act to prevent bad legislation.**

**The battle continues over the energy tax receipts that the state continues to divert from the local Municipalities. Through the efforts of the League of Municipalities and other agencies including the Conference of Mayors, much time was spent testifying before the Senate and Assembly last year, we were able to pass legislation to begin to restore these funds back where they belong. The legislation passed both the Senate and Assembly only to be vetoed by Governor Christie. Once again, please visit the League of Municipalities website to learn what this is about.**

**Serving as President of the League of Municipalities over this past year has given me the front line view of some of the major issues being bantered back and forth between our legislators. I**

**am saddened to see the partisan politics that is taking place rather than issue based resolutions. I hope this will not continue and we will see a focus change soon.**

**It was an honor and privilege to serve as President this past year. It is a one year term and my term has ended. It was a little different this year since our annual convention had to be cancelled due to the damage from Super storm Sandy. The business meeting was held on December 5<sup>th</sup> where the gavel was passed on to Mayor Mironov of East Windsor. I am sorry that I did not have the chance to participate in the Convention which is the highlight of the year but it was inappropriate to move forward with the convention when there were so many negatively affected by the storm. My hopes and prayers go out to those who faced devastation and destruction beyond imagination. We will have our convention in November of this year and I am sure we will have plenty of new information to share on how to deal with the aftermath of a catastrophic storm as well as the wealth of other knowledge. As the League's immediate Past President I will continue to actively participate and look forward to the opportunity.**

**This has been a fairly quiet year for Mt Arlington. We have had some nice events and improvements as well as drama. As I always do, I checked the list of forecasted goals and we met them or are in the process of implementation. They are as follows:**

- We did accomplish the next phase of the “streetscape” which included the installation of sidewalks, lighting, and street trees on Howard Boulevard between Altenbrand Ave and Memorial Park. This was done with grant dollars from the New Jersey Department of Transportation and was originally slated to be a 2011**

**project. There were some delays in obtaining easements but it has now been accomplished in 2012.**

- **The sidewalks from our existing network to the train station are still not 100% complete. I am very happy that most of the work is done and it is much safer for pedestrian traffic than before. Completion is pending. This project was funded with grant money from the NJDOT.**
- **Our beach area has been improved. There are now professional volley ball courts where the old roller rink had been. There are also gaming tables and bocce ball courts set up in that same area. There are plans for additional improvements. This improvement was funded with grant money from Green Acres.**
- **Natural Gas lines were installed on Bertrand Island**
- **Approval was obtained for installation of natural gas lines on Succasunna Road**

**This doesn't sound like a lot but each project certainly had its challenges.**

**For 2013 I anticipate the following improvements:**

- **I see the natural gas line installation completed on Succasunna Road and we will reconstruct Succasunna Road. This will include curbing and storm drains. I am not sure how this will work out on the Roxbury side of the street being we are seeking Roxbury to match our level of improvement. Negotiations are ongoing but we will begin work in the spring. This project will be partially funded with DOT grant dollars.**
- **We have placed the intersection of Oneida Ave and Howard Blvd and the portion of Howard on the "big bend" as it has been referred to as a priority for 2013.**

**Being we are dependent on the County to take the lead on this project, since it is a County Road, we have made the request. This is an intersection that has been in need of upgrade for quite some time and we feel the time has come.**

- There will be improvements in the area of recreation but the plan has not been completely drawn up as of yet. It will be soon. There are many areas we are looking at and the cost is certainly a factor. We are overall looking at upgrading Firemans field and that area. We are in need of lighting and other amenities. This will include the access streets to this area. We will keep you informed of progress and plans.**
- Expanding the access to Natural Gas throughout the Borough is a goal. We are working with NJR to come up with a master plan and will make that public once we know the details. This will be done in phases. I hope to see some more expansion in 2013. We will keep you posted.**
- Continued planning for our former landfill property.**

**I am not going to forecast much more since it would be premature. We will examine our budget and the needs and balance the spending accordingly.**

**I am happy to report we are financially stable. We did well in 2012 with a minimal tax increase to keep up with escalating costs that are out of our control. Were we could control we did. I do not see more than a minimal increase for the upcoming year. Once again, this is to keep up with the cost of living increases, insurance, benefits, and utility costs. This will not be a large increase and that is due to our diligent planning and continual monitoring of ways to operate as efficiently as possible. As I said earlier, we monitor every one of our tax dollars spent to be sure it is being used most effectively.**

**We were fortunate that we did not feel the brunt of Super Storm Sandy. We had minimal damage in our area. We did lose power for the longest time I can ever remember but that was little to sacrifice when we see what our fellow residents in areas that survived catastrophic damage and felt the full force of the storm. I am very thankful for all the caring showed during our power outage. I saw many acts of kindness that showed me we are all one big family and we look out for each other when times are rough. Our staff worked very hard and unselfishly to provide for our residents. With their own families and homes in need they continued to be here to serve our residents. There are many to be thanked for all they did and I hope to have some kind of event, during the summer months, to formally thank everyone that contributed. There were many lessons learned during this crisis. I did wind up with many more friends on Facebook. I was happy to provide whatever information I could. Being in the utility business for 25+ years, I have a good understanding of how the infrastructure works. JCP&L was very good to work with, providing whatever information they could and getting crews in Mt. Arlington as fast as possible. I am sure this isn't the last crisis situation we will be in and we will do our best each and every time.**

**There are major issues going on with Lake Hopatcong and the process by which the lakes water level is managed. I urge everyone to keep an eye on the Lake Hopatcong Commission website to monitor future plans. I will keep you updated as new information becomes available. I want to thank Ann Praves and Tom Foley who serve as Commissioners representing Mount Arlington on the Lake Hopatcong Commission. I also want to thank Bill Doran who serves on the Lake Level Management Committee representing our interests. Lake Hopatcong is a very important asset to Mount Arlington and everyone who visits the lake. Not only is it a**

**beautiful natural resource but also a source of revenue for our local businesses. Even if you don't live on the lake, you are directly or indirectly impacted by what happens to our Lake.**

**It was a busy year for me personally but as I stated earlier my term as President of the State League of Municipalities is over. I continue to serve as President of the State League of Municipalities Education Foundation.**

**I was also reappointed to the Board of Directors of the State Conference of Mayors representing Morris County.**

**I continue to serve on the Patient Family Advisory Committee for Saint Clare's Health System. I will serve on that committee for another year. I was asked to stay on for an additional year after completing a two year term. This committee focuses on how Saint Clare's can better serve their patients and the community.**

**I look forward to serving in these capacities to help make a difference for many in New Jersey. In these capacities I will have the opportunity to learn much and contribute to positive changes that affect many. I choose to serve in these volunteer capacities in order to learn and grow so I can serve my constituents to the best of my ability.**

**I officiated at least 40 weddings this past year as well as attended an Eagle Scout Ceremony. I also responded to many who reached out with issues and we found resolve to most.**

**In conclusion I can report that Mount Arlington is well positioned to face 2013 and beyond. Barring anything crazy coming down from the state, we will continue to manage our Borough effectively and efficiently.**

**I encourage anyone who needs my assistance to contact me. I encourage anyone who has questions about the Borough to call me to get the facts. I welcome all feedback. Visit our new and improved website where there is much information including my contact information.**

**God Bless all of you and God Bless our Armed Forces who serve all over the world. It is due to their service that we can enjoy our freedom. Please keep them and their families in your prayers since they do sacrifice everything for us.**

**Remember all of those who put themselves in harm's way to protect us.**

**Thank you.**