

**BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON  
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 4, 2015  
11:00 a.m.**

**1. Call to Order**

The Borough Attorney called the meeting to order.

**2. Roll Call**

Councilwoman Danchuk, Councilman Cangiano, Councilman Sorge, Councilman Windish, 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 and the Roxbury Register on November 20, 2014; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on November 20, 2014 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**

The Borough Attorney led the flag salute and asked for a moment of silence.

**5. Certification of Election**

The Clerk read the Certification of Election into the record.

**6. Swearing in of Re-Elected Borough Mayor**

Wharton Mayor William Chegwiddden administered the Oath of Office and Mayor Arthur Ondish took his seat on the dais.

**7. Swearing in of Re-Elected Council Members**

Mayor: Will Council Members Stephen Sadow and Michael Stanzilis please step forward to be sworn in to serve **3-year terms** on the Borough Council ending December 31, 2017.  
The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office and the Council Members took their places on the dais.

**8. Roll Call of the 2015 Council Members**

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

**9. Invocation**

Mayor: We are pleased to have with us today Pastor Roy Roderick who will give the Invocation.  
Pastor Roy Roderick delivered the Invocation.

**10. Guests in Audience**

Mayor: At this time I would like to recognize some of our guests. The Mayor publicly acknowledged many of the elected officials and professionals attending the meeting.

**11. Nomination of Council President for 2015**

Councilman Windish: I nominate Councilman Sorge to serve as Council President for 2015  
Councilman Cangiano: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

**12. Mayor’s Address**

The Mayor read his address into the record.

**13. Appointments:**

**Borough Officials**

Mayor : I recommend appointment of the following Borough Officials:  
Pension Certifying Official Terry Smith - **1-year term**  
Treasurer  
DPW Supervisor Paul Nelson - **1-year term**

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments.

Councilman Cangiano: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

**Professional Services**

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

Borough Attorney	O'Donnell McCord Matthew J. O'Donnell, Esq.
Borough Auditor	Nisivoccia LLP Francis Jones, CPA
Borough Bond Counsel	Law Office of John Hudak, Esq. John Hudak, Esq.
Borough Engineer	CP Engineering LLC Sabine Watson
Borough Special Engineer	Alaimo Group Cons. Engineer
Borough Special Engineer	H2M Architects + Engineers
Borough Planner	J. Caldwell Associates, Inc.

	Jessica Caldwell
Borough Special Bond Counsel	Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer John M. Cantalupo, Esq.
Budget Consultant	Joseph Kovalcik
Grant Consultants	Matrix New World Engineering, Inc.
Land Use Board Attorney	Courter Kobert Laufer Cohen Michael Selvaggi, Esq.
Stormwater Management Consultant	CP Engineering LLC Sabine Watson
Tax Appeal Appraiser	Scott Holzhauer, CTA, SCGREA

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Sadow: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Abstain: Danchuk\*\*

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.

### **Mayor's Appointments**

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

Tax Search Officer	Debra Ann Halik
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
County Flood Mitigation Committee	Councilwoman Danchuk
Licensed Water Operator	Paul Nelson
Police Matron	Valerie Kourtz
Lake Hopatcong Foundation of Trails and Open Space Efforts Rep.	Nita Galate
League of Municipalities Rep.	Mayor Arthur Ondish
Liaison to the Board of Education	Councilman Stanzilis
Liaison to the Board of Health	Councilman Cangiano
Liaison to the Seniors Club	Councilman Sadow
Borough Pastor	Pastor Roy Roderick
MCJIF Commissioner	Carolyn Rinaldi
Alternate I	Mayor Ondish
Morris County Historic Preservation Review Board Rep.	Nita Galate
Mount Arlington Historic Sites Survey Rep.	Nita Galate

**\*\*See Council Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2015.**

Public Safety Coordinator	Police Chief Keith Licata
Public Safety Coordinator	Paul Nelson
Public Safety Clerk	Terry Smith
OEM Coordinator	Police Chief Keith Licata
Deputy OEM Coordinator	Fire Chief Aitor Ostolaza
Deputy OEM Coordinator	Paul Nelson
Deputy OEM Coordinator	Jack Delaney
CDRS Representative by Mayor	Gail Delaney
CDRS Alt. Rep. by Mayor	Mayor Ondish
Chief Financial Officer	Carolyn Rinaldi

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Stanzilis: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.

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

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

Councilman Stanzilis: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

#### 15. Council Committee Appointments

Mayor: I ask for confirmation of the following appointments to the Council Committees for the Year 2015:

**Finance:**

Chair: Councilman Sadow

Members: Stanzilis, Danchuk

**Police:**

Chair: Councilman Sorge

Members: Sadow, Stanzilis

**Personnel & Public Relations:**

Chair: Councilman Windish

Members: Sorge, Cangiano

**Fire, Rescue & OEM:**

Chair: Councilman Stanzilis

Members: Windish, Cangiano

**Parks & Recreation:**

Chair: Councilman Cangiano

Members: Windish, Danchuk

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

Chair: Councilwoman Danchuk

Members: Sorge, Sadow

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Windish: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

#### 16. Fire Department Officers & Fire Official

Mayor: I recommend appointment of the following to the Fire Department as Officers for **January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 (1-year term):**

Fire Chief: Aitor Ostolaza  
Assistant Chief: Nick Lima  
Captain: Mike Lima  
Lieutenant: Gary Giacobbe  
Engineer: Jason Vivian

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Sadow: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.

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 2015 (1-year term)**

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of this appointment.

Councilman Windish: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

#### 17. Council's Appointment to the Land Use Board

Council President Sorge: I nominate Councilman Windish as a Class III Member of the Land Use Board for the **Year 2015.**

Councilman Cangiano: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

#### 18. 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 12/31/15)**

Class II Member – Carolyn Rinaldi, Borough Employee **(1-year term, expires 12/31/15)**

Class III Member – Councilman Windish **(1-year term, expires 12/31/15)**

Class IV Member – Rob VanDenHende (2-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Class IV Member - Marguerite Wilson (2-year term, expires 12/31/15)

Class IV Member – Melissa Fostle (4-year term, expires 12/31/17)

Class IV Member – Maureen Cerasoli (4-year term, expires 12/31/17)

Class IV Member – Ray Simard (4-year term, expires 12/31/18)

Class IV Member – Lee Loughridge (4-year term, expires 12/31/18)

Alternate 1 Member – Tom Foley (3-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Alternate 2 Member – Fran Hallowich (2-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Alternate 3 Member – John Driscoll (2-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Alternate 4 Member – Bill Keuntje (2-year term, expires 12/31/16)

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Windish : Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.

## 19. Library Board of Trustees

Mayor: I recommend Council President Sorge as Mayor's Alternate to the Library Board of Trustees for the Year 2015.

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of this appointment

Councilman Windish: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

Mayor: I move for confirmation of the following appointments:  
Maureen Cerasoli, President (5-year term, expires 12/31/18)  
Fran Hallowich, Secretary (5-year term, expires 12/31/19)  
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  
Councilman Sorge, Mayor's Alternate, (1-year term, expires 12/31/15)  
Jane Jameson, Superintendent of Schools  
Linda Nadzeika, Superintendent's Alternate, (1-year term, expires 12/31/15)

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Windish: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.

## 20. Board of Health

Mayor:

I recommend appointment of the following to the 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 12/31/17)**

Roy Morance, Member **(3-year term, expires 12/31/17)**

Laura O'Reilly-Stanzilis, **(3-year term, expires 12/31/16)**

Patti DiGeronimo, **(3-year term, expires 12/31/16)**

Frank Wilpert, Health Officer

Debra Ann Halik, Board of Health Administrator **(1-year term, expires 12/31/15).**

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Stanzilis: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

The Borough Attorney administered the Oath of Office.

## 21. Board of Recreation Commission:

Mayor:

I recommend the following appointments to the **Board of Recreation Commission**; appointed members **do not have to take an oath**, but I ask that they please stand up to be recognized after confirmation of their appointments.

Jennifer Tamburo, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/19)**

Emil Cardona, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/15)**

Edwin Botero, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/16)**

Paul Metz, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/17)**

Sharon McDonald, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/18)**

James Matthews, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/17)**

Michael Strickler, **(5-year term, expires 12/31/18)**

Rebecca Keenan, Alt. #1 **(5-year term, expires 12/31/15)**

Kristin Biase, Alt. #2 **(5-year term, expires 12/31/16)**

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Cangiano: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

Motion Approved.

## 22. Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan Review Committee

Mayor: I recommend appointment of the following to the Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan Review Committee:  
 Borough Representative: William Doran.  
 Borough Alternate Representative: Councilman Cangiano.

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments  
 Councilman Sadow: Seconds

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

Motion Approved.

## 23. Lake Hopatcong Commission

Mayor: I recommend appointment of the following to the Lake Hopatcong Commission:  
 Borough Representative: Anne Pravs, (2-year term, expires 12/31/16).  
 Borough Alternate Representative: Ron Morris, (2-year term, expires 12/31/16).

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments  
 Councilman Stanzilis: Seconds

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

Motion Approved.

## 24. Advisory Council Appointments

Mayor: Advisory Council appointed members **do not have to take an oath**, but I ask that they please stand up to be recognized after confirmation of their appointments.  
 Their appointments are for a **1-year term**.

Mayor: I recommend the following appointments:

**Board of Education Working Committee**  
 Councilman Stanzilis, Chair  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Councilman Sorge  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Carolyn Rinaldi  
 Matthew O'Donnell, Esq.

**Building Committee**  
 Councilwoman Danchuk, Chair  
 Councilman Sorge  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Sabine Watson, Borough Engineer  
 Paul Nelson  
 Maureen Cerasoli  
 Carolyn Rinaldi

**Code Committee**

Councilman Windish, Chair  
 Councilman Cangiano  
 Councilman Stanzilis  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Carolyn Rinaldi  
 Linda DeSantis  
 Matthew O'Donnell, Esq.

**Green Team Committee**

Councilman Cangiano, Chair  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Councilman Windish  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Carolyn Rinaldi, Mayor's Appointment  
 Paul Nelson  
 Jane Jameson  
 Gail Delaney  
 Viviana Migliore  
 Kathy Appleby  
 Darlene Kadel  
 Nita Galate  
 Heidi Roldan

**Landfill Committee**

Councilman Sorge, Chair  
 Councilman Sadow  
 Councilwoman Danchuk  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Carolyn Rinaldi  
 Sabine Watson, Borough Engineer

**Master Plan Committee**

Melissa Fostle  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Councilman Windish  
 Maureen Cerasoli  
 Lee Loughridge  
 Ray Simard  
 Sabine Watson, Borough Engineer  
 Michael Selvaggi, Land Use Attorney  
 Jessica Caldwell, Borough Planner  
 Carolyn Rinaldi

**Mayor's Wellness Committee**

Councilman Stanzilis, Chair  
 Mayor Ondish  
 Helen Giles  
 Judith Loughridge  
 James Matthews  
 Christopher Merker  
 Leann Phil  
 Marie Rotondella  
 Sharon Voytush

Carolyn Rinaldi  
**Parking Authority Committee**

Councilman Sadow, Chair

Councilman Sorge

Councilman Windish

Mayor Ondish

Carolyn Rinaldi

Matthew O'Donnell, Esq.

**Technology Committee**

Councilman Windish, Chair

Councilman Sorge

Councilman Sadow

Mayor Ondish

Chief Keith Licata

Fire Chief Ostolaza

John Driscoll

Matt Zuccaro

Lou Nisivoccia

Carolyn Rinaldi

**Water & Sewer Committee**

Councilman Cangiano, Chair

Councilman Sadow

Councilman Windish

Mayor Ondish

Paul Nelson

Michael Cristaldi, Borough Special Engineer

Maureen Cerasoli

Carolyn Rinaldi

**Zoning Committee**

Councilman Sorge, Chair

Councilman Windish

Councilman Stanzilis

Mayor Ondish

Tom Mahoney

Maureen Cerasoli

Mike Selvaggi, Esq.

Carolyn Rinaldi

Jessica Caldwell, Borough Planner

Council President Sorge: I move for confirmation of these appointments

Councilman Windish: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**25. Borough Employees**

Mayor:

I recommend the continued employment of all Borough Employees who were on the payroll on December 31, 2014, except for any employees whose services with the Borough may have been terminated at or on December 31, 2014.

Council President Sorge: Motion to Approve

Councilman Windish: Seconds

Roll Call:

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

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

## 26. Council Meeting Dates for 2015

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 **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:

Sunday, January 4 Reorganization Meeting 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 20 Tuesday, July 7

Tuesday, February 3 Tuesday, August 4

Tuesday, March 3 Tuesday, September 1

Tuesday, April 7 Tuesday, October 6

Tuesday, May 5 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 10

Tuesday, June 9 Tuesday, December 1

Tuesday, December 15

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.

## 27. Public Comment

None.

## 28. 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.

- 2015-01** Resolution Establishing the Rate of Interest on Delinquent Municipal Charges for the Year 2015.
- 2015-02** Resolution To Allow Cancellation of Tax and Utility Overpayments or Delinquent Amounts Less than \$10.00 for the Year 2015.
- 2015-03** Resolution Authorizing a Tax Sale to Be Held in the Year 2015.
- 2015-04** Resolution Designating Official Newspapers of the Borough.
- 2015-05** Resolution Authorizing the Official Depositories of the Borough.
- 2015-06** 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.
- 2015-07** Resolution Authorizing Signatures on Payroll and Other Checks.
- 2015-08** Resolution Authorizing Municipal Attorney to Undertake Certain Actions on Behalf of the Borough on Recommendation of the Tax Assessor.
- 2015-09** Resolution Appointing Rich Allocca, Advent Insurance Services, Inc., as the Borough's Risk Management Consultant.
- 2015-10** Resolution Appointing Morris County Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and Alternate I Member for the Borough of Mount Arlington.
- 2015-11** Resolution Adopting a Form Required To Be Used for the Filing of Notices of Tort Claims Against the Borough of Mount Arlington.
- 2015-12** Resolution Supporting the Lake Hopatcong Commission.
- 2015-13** Resolution Supporting and Participating in the Volunteer Tuition Credit Program (P.L. 1998, C. 145).
- 2015-14** Resolution Authorizing Professional Services Contracts for the Calendar Year 2015.
- 2015-15** Resolution Appointing the Local Emergency Planning Council.
- 2015-16** Resolution Authorizing Creation of Community Emergency Response Team.
- 2015-17** Resolution Authorizing Recreation Commission Petty Cash Fund.
- 2015-18** Resolution Authorizing Temporary Appropriations for Operating Purposes.
- 2015-19** Resolution to Affirm Civil Rights Policy with Respect to All Officials, Appointees, Employees, Prospective Employees, Volunteers, Independent Contractors, and Members of the Public that Come into Contact with Municipal Employees, Officials and Volunteers.
- 2015-20** Resolution Authorizing Petty Cash Fund.
- 2015-21** Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of the 2015 American Appraisal Associates, Inc. Consulting Services Agreement.
- 2015-22** Resolution Authorizing the Receipt of Bids (Borough Snow Removal Services).

Motion to Approve Resolutions 2015-01 through 2015-22 By Consent:  
Councilman Sadow.

Second: Council President Sorge

Roll Call:

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

None Opposed.

Motion Approved.

**29. 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 Tabled at Council Meeting of January 20, 2015.

Minutes Approved, with Added Footnote on Page 3, at Council Meeting of February 3, 2015.

1/4/15 Meeting

**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 **4th** day of **November, 2014**.

The said Board does determine that at the said election:

NAME	OFFICE	TERM
Arthur R. Ondish	Mayor	4 Years
Stephen Sadow	Borough Council	3 Years
Michael Stanzilis	Borough Council	3 Years

~~was~~ 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 **13th** day of **November, 2014**.

Attest:

Ann F. Grossi  
Ann F. Grossi, Esq.  
Morris County Clerk

John R. Sette  
Chairman of the Board of County Canvassers  
John R. Sette

Jan. 4, 2015

**Good morning and Happy New Year. I wish you good health, happiness, and prosperity in 2015. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas or enjoyed whatever holiday you celebrate. Your attendance at our reorganization meeting is appreciated. This meeting puts the team in place who will serve our Borough during the year 2014.**

**Congratulations Councilman Sadow and Councilman Stanzilis on being reelected to serve our Borough. Working together we have been successful in moving our Borough forward. It is a challenge and it becomes more challenging every year. I must also thank our spouses who sacrifice time away from us while we do the work of the Borough.**

**I thank you all for reelecting me to serve a 4<sup>th</sup> term. I am very humbled by your trust and support. I do take this job very seriously and will always do my best to represent you as your Mayor. I have taken a long time to develop a reputation as someone who it in it for my Boroughs sake. I don't ask for much but try to give a lot. I have to say, it sure changed from what I told my wife when I started this elected thing as a Councilman in 1997. I told her at the time it would just be a couple meetings a month. Yeah right! I thank you Yvonne for giving me the time and support to work for Mount Arlingtons best interests. I think you can see that I have not squandered it.**

**Thank you to our staff here at Borough Hall, lead by Carolyn Rinaldi our Administrator. They all continue to serve us well. They are the faces who most residents see on a regular basis. They are the ones who take the payments and answer the questions. They do it so well and treat everyone who comes in this building with respect and dignity. They understand that it is their actions that define Mt Arlington's reputation as a friendly and professional place to reside and do business.**

**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. The Borough does not run itself and without volunteers we would not be able to survive.**

**I thank our police department for their good work. Our police officers respond to such a variety of calls. They are on the front lines and always know what to say and do when they are called on. It is with great pride that I hear such positive feedback on their interactions with the general public. I also am glad when I hear it in the wind, “don’t speed through Mt Arlington”. Speeding on our local roadways is an ongoing issue. I believe we have taken many measures to address this ongoing problem. I really like the electronic speed sign what was installed on Seasons Drive and Bertrand Island Road. This seems to have helped make drivers think and slow down. I know Chief Licata and the department are doing what they can to address this issue but really it comes down to our residents minding their speed as they drive on our local roadways. Please think as you drive and keep your eye on your speed.**

**I also am concerned about the growing drug problem amongst our youth. One overdose is too many. I thank our police for working on this issue. They have teamed with other police departments and have had some success. I pray they continue to make a difference.**

**I thank our Fire Department for their diligence in responding to the needs of our residents. This was a busy year for Chief Norman and our Department. I am sure he is not unhappy to**

**turn that responsibility over to Ator. Not that he did not do a great job and steadily lead but it is a lot of responsibility and he can now take a break. Thanks to all who responded and for their dedication throughout the year. Understand these are men and women who volunteer their time. Calls come at all hours of the night or day. One thing that continues to trouble me is when I hear a call in the wee hours of the morning for a smoke detector or CO2 detector. Most of these turn out to be low batteries. Please do check and change batteries so that these folks don't have to respond to these kinds of calls and then get up for work in the morning. Another place where these volunteers spend much time is on mutual aid calls to our neighboring communities. Obviously Jefferson Twp, Roxbury and Hopatcong are much larger communities and see more activity. Our department assists them often and this is also to be recognized and appreciated.**

**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. So far we have not had the snow that was predicted but I know if and when it comes, they will do a great job keeping our roads clear. There is much that they do that no one really notices but if they didn't do their jobs it would be obvious.**

**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 also want to be sure and commend the staff at our Public Library. I receive so much positive feedback about how kind and helpful the library staff is when called upon. I am very proud of our local Library and want to commend the staff for their good work. This adds to Mt Arlington's reputation of**

**being a friendly place providing great customer service to our community.**

**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. I want to thank Sheila Studint who was elected School Board President over this past year. She has done a wonderful job of sharing information and attending most meeting to be sure and understand the issues so she can work on resolve.**

**This has been a quiet year in the Borough but there has been plenty of activity. Some of the goals I had hoped to reach this year did not come to fruition due to many understandable yet annoying reasons. We have finally shamed Roxbury Twp into addressing the Succasunna Road reconstruction issue. We have come to resolve and that project is slated to begin in the spring when the weather breaks.**

**We did receive our new Dial a Ride bus. This is a great improvement since the old bus, which I can't believe we had for 10 years, was at the end of its useful life. I hope those that take advantage of this service enjoy the new ride.**

**The Oneida Ave intersection improvements were not completed in 2014 as I had anticipated. Due to the many changes going on with Morris County, this project is on the books but funding did not happen. Being Howard Blvd is a County Road, we are very dependent on the County for this project to happen. They have now budgeted for this in 2015. I want everyone to know this is going to be a very big**

**inconvenience when it comes to be. Be prepared for traffic delays and issues. We will straighten out Howard Blvd before Oneida Ave and install a turning lane. Howard Blvd is a very busy corridor and it will be a big mess for awhile. We will have traffic updates when the time comes. Just remember you have to break a few eggs to make an omelet. When you are inconvenienced by this project, and I am sure everyone will have some time when they are inconvenienced, just try and focus on the end goal which will be a much improved and safer passageway. We will be installing sidewalks and curbing as well. It is a project long overdue.**

**Recreation improvements at our Beach have not moved ahead as anticipated but I am hopeful to see the next phases beginning this coming year. We intend to add a bathroom facility as well as a concession-pavilion, facility.**

**We are also looking at improvements to Firemans field which could include a turf field and replacing the lighting. I am excited that LED lighting has made great advances and by the time we are ready to make a move, new LED lighting will be available. LED is much less expensive to operate and better for the environment. This is an exciting project and we will continue to explore how to do this using grants and any free money we can find to ease the burden on the taxpayer.**

**We continue to explore opportunities to make use of our closed Landfill. We have had a company come in and evaluate the area to give us some ideas on what would be a good use. That is still ongoing and we will continue to explore in 2015.**

**Some other progressive advances I see in 2015 are the following:**

**Our Pilot project is anticipated to begin construction. This is the first Payment in Lew of Taxes project Mt Arlington has done. Many municipalities across the state have taken advantage of this program to develop land that is devalued. This will be a good addition to our Borough. This will take land that was valued basically as unimproved land and increase our tax base for the improvement. The initial increase will almost triple the tax base. As the 300 units are constructed, the value will continue to rise and revenue will increase. This is a project that will be ongoing for a several years.**

**The Shadow woods project which consists of another 70 units behind the Pilot project is also slated to begin construction. Those that live in Lake Rogerene have seen the massive clearing of trees that will lead to the development.**

**Natural Gas lines have been installed in the Landing section of Mt Arlington. We have word from NJR that the next phase will include Lake Rogerene. This should begin in the spring. Due to the pilot project there is a need to create a loop in the gas service. The line that ends on Orben Dr will be expanded through Lake Rogerene and over the mountain into the Pilot area on Valley Road.**

**We are anxious to see NG expansion throughout the Borough but it is not our choice or decision on where expansion takes place. It is the Utility who makes these plans and decisions. What we do is support NJR and assist those anticipated areas with outreach and notification of expansion. This will be ongoing and I look forward to each expansion since it gives residents a choice and chance to convert if they wish. This will be the first major installation of an underground utility in Lake Rogerene. This will give us an idea of how difficult a project will be to install water and sewer. I know it is greatly need and a long term goal of mine, as it has been for years. It**

**isn't something that happens overnight. It does take a lot of time and preparation. I hope to see it done one day.**

**The Quick Chek application has been approved and is moving forward. This will take the place of North Jersey Marine. December 19 was the last day of North Jersey Marine being on this land and Quick Chek has begun some infrastructure work as you can see when you drive by. They are working toward building a new facility much like they have on Lakeside Blvd in Hopatcong and on Route 15 in Jefferson Twp where it would be a store and gas station. This will be a nice addition to our Route 80 corridor. They anticipate being open by July depending on weather and any other unanticipated issues. With the growth in the Howard Blvd corridor, we have gone to Trenton and met with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and asked them to look into efficiencies with the exit ramps. They are actively exploring an option we suggested which would improve the West bound exit ramps. We will continue to work with the DOT to move forward.**

**We reached a great goal by being certified in the Sustainable Jersey program through the League of Municipalities. We received our Bronze certification and now are working on recertifying and maybe reaching the next level. One project I am excited to hear being worked on is a community garden. I am very proud of our Green Team. Being certified and moving forward will open doors for future grant money to continue to do good things in Mt Arlington that help save money and are good for the environment. If anyone would like to understand more about Sustainable Jersey and what it is all about, you can visit the Sustainable Jersey website. We also have information on our own Borough website. If anyone would like to volunteer their time, please let me know and you would be welcome to become a member of the Green Team.**

**I am happy to report we are very financially stable. We did well in 2014 with a minimal tax increase to keep up with escalating costs that are out of our control. 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 came in as the 6<sup>th</sup> lowest tax rate in Morris County out of the 39 towns. Morris County was just rated as the 6<sup>th</sup> best County in the Country to live in. That is pretty awesome in my eyes.**

**I want to thank Ann Pravs and Ron Morris 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.**

**Personally I continue to keep busy with my involvement serving on board and committees serving Morris County and the State. I am Second Vice President with the New Jersey Conference of Mayors**

**I still remain very active in the New Jersey League of Municipalities as a Past President.**

**I was asked and voted to be on the Executive Board of the Sustainable Jersey Board of Trustees this year. I am very humbled by this honor. I have been involved with the**

**Sustainable Jersey program since its inception. This is probably one of the most successful things I have been involved with over the last 8 years. The program has exploded. Over 450 of the 565 municipalities have joined in this program and are sharing best practices and doing good things for their municipalities.**

**I also sit on the Board of Transoptions, which is the think tank that focuses on safety and traffic issues in Morris County. Transoptions also hosts the Solar Sprinters which is a program to have 8<sup>th</sup> graders learn about solar energy and build solar cars and race them. I have been a judge for this program for many years. I was not too impartial when our own Mt Arlington School children come to race. I was honored last year as the Mayor of the Year by Transoptions. That was a very humbling honor for me.**

**I also remain on the Board of New Jersey Clean Cities which is the think tank for looking into alternative fuels and other ways to reduce cost and improve the environment.**

**I also remain on the St Clare's Patient Family Advisory Committee. This had been a rewarding experience as it gives me the opportunity to see the advances going on at St Clare's.**

**Being involved in all of these organizations helps keep me informed of what goes on outside of Mount Arlington so I can bring information back for this Council to use in making decisions on best practices and how we move the Borough forward. I am blessed that my employer, PSE&G, supports what I do and afford me the opportunity to serve.**

**I have officiated at least 50 weddings this past year.**

**I have also responded to the needs of many of our residents and will continue to do so. Call on me if I can be of service.**

**In conclusion I can report that Mount Arlington is well positioned to face 2015 and beyond. Remember that I report on all of these activities as part of the team. This Council continues to improve and we make good decisions together. They have the authority to make the changes that are suggested. I am very proud and humbled with the trust they show me and the support they give. We all analyze issues and come together and decisions are made based on what best serves our Borough. It doesn't matter who comes up with the idea, we all work together. There is an old saying that it doesn't matter who receives the credit as long as it gets done.**

**We continue to monitor what comes out of Trenton and hope our legislature will resolve issues and provide relief to all Municipalities in NJ. The energy tax issue is a battle the League of Municipalities will continue to wage on our behalf. This money has the potential to provide serious tax relief to those whom is rightfully belongs. We will continue to monitor the progress. The other major issue is S-2 which focuses on shares services and consolidation. I continue to be open minded to any opportunity to save money and be more efficient. Shared services are the answer. No one saves a**

**fortune but if you seek out many, they add up to considerable savings. Smaller municipalities are much more efficient and accountable. If bigger was better than the larger cities would be the most efficient and we all know that is not the case. Consolidation looks good on paper and in theory but in reality, it doesn't save money and reduces the accountability and efficiency. Quality of service has a value. That must always be taken into consideration.**

**I encourage anyone who has questions about the Borough to contact me to get the facts. I welcome all feedback. I encourage you to monitor our website which is continually updated to provide our residents with real time information as well as what is posted on our electronic message boards. If you have a smart phone, download the Mt Arlington App. We are one of the only municipalities to have an app thanks to our web professional Matt Zaccaro. Matt is a local college student who has proven to be a great asset to Mt Arlington with the service he provides. Check it out!**

**Let me take a moment to thank all of you for your kindness and support during my recent diagnosis of cancer. I am being treated and am doing just fine. I will continue to work with my**

**Doctors and move forward. There is much to be done and I plan on serving long into the future. I am humbled by all of the support and prayers that have come my way. Thank you all very much!**

**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.**