

**TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL  
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
CAUCUS MEETING**

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
MARCH 9, 2009  
7:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 5 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 231 P. L. 1975, NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP BULLETIN BOARD DESIGNED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTICE WAS MAILED TO THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS AS PROVIDED BY RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON JANUARY 2, 2008.

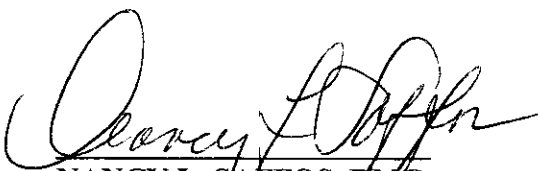
**ROLL CALL:**

**COUNCILMAN FRANK FALCONE  
COUNCILWOMAN SARA LIPSETT  
COUNCILMAN DAVID FLEISHER  
COUNCILWOMAN JOYCE KURZWEIL  
COUNCILMAN DENNIS GARBOWSKI  
COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT N. JOHN AMATO  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT STEVEN POLANSKY**

**ADOPTED: MARCH 23, 2009**

  
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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**NANCY L. SAFFOS, RMC  
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

**MINUTES**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 5 OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 231 P. L. 1975, NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP BULLETIN BOARD DESIGNED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTICE WAS MAILED TO THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS AS PROVIDED BY RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON JANUARY 2, 2008.**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT CALLED FOR ALL TO REMAIN STANDING FOR A MOMENT OF SILENCE TO KEEP OUR TROOPS WHO ARE OVERSEAS IN OUR PRAYERS**

**ROLL CALL:**

**COUNCILMAN FRANK FALCONE  
COUNCILWOMAN SARA LIPSETT  
COUNCILWOMAN JOYCE KURZWEIL  
COUNCILMAN DENNIS GARBOWSKI  
COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT N. JOHN AMATO  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT STEVEN POLANSKY**

**PROCLAMATIONS AND/OR COMMENDATIONS**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PRIOR REGISTRATION**

**Roxane Shinn: 10 White Oak Drive**

“As set forth in the preamble of the proposed resolution, New Jersey municipalities have adopted Integrated Pest Management Systems because scientific studies associate exposure to pesticides with asthma, cancer, development and learning disabilities, nerve and immune system damage, liver or kidney damage, reproductive impairment, birth defects, and disruption of the endocrine system. And because lawn pesticides are harmful to pets, wildlife, soil, microbiology plants and natural ecosystems and can run off into streams, lakes and drinking water resources, there is no good public policy reason to carve out an exception for the use of pesticides or herbicides for specific “specific aspects of natural resource management.” The same scientific environmental and public health arguments against their use on private lawns and gardens also applies to publicly-owned land and land uses. Please do not sanction the use of pesticides and herbicides on township-owned land. Delete the first whereas clause in this resolution. Keeping this clause makes Cherry Hill’s IPM policy an environmental farce and it will show the public that the township does not intend to practice what it preaches. Thank you.”

**Jane Magocki: 223 Park Avenue, Marlton, New Jersey**

“I represent the New Jersey Environmental Federation, an organization that’s been promoting Integrated Pest Management and pesticide-free zones in municipalities across the state. About 26 other towns have passed policies such as this one including Voorhees, next door, and I had hoped to come tonight in, you know, wholehearted support of this resolution, except the, the whereas paragraph that Roxane just mentioned which carves out an exemption from the policy for state and federal agencies. I think that weakens the policy, you know, the policy is to set a framework for the town that manages public properties and everybody should be held to the same standard, you know, they should go through the IPM protocol which is “use natural and physical methods first for controlling pests and least toxic pesticides only as a last resort.” There’s no reason to exempt an agency because it’s not an absolute prohibition of pesticides, but it makes you go through the exercise of saying “is there a

non-toxic way to deal with this problem?" Also, in the last paragraph, I had actually, you know, proposed a model resolution that other towns have used and everything is identical to the model resolution except that paragraph and the last paragraph where it says that the township endorses Integrated Pest Management. I was proposing that you would say you adopt Integrated Pest Management and that you will establish pesticide-free zones, particularly in your parks where kids play. When towns do this, we give them a sign that says "pesticide-free zone," it's a ladybug sign and if you see parks in Voorhees, they're all posted with this sign because they're not using pesticides in any of their parks. So I'd urge that you amend the resolution to omit that paragraph and to strengthen it by saying that you're formally adopting this policy through your Public Works. Thank you very much. I want to acknowledge the help of Susan Wolf, I believe will be the next speaker who brought me to your town to discuss this idea with your Public Works Department and Parks Department."

**Susan Wolf, 405 Garden State Drive**

"Mayor Platt, Town Council Members and those who helped with this resolution, Jane Magocki and I want to thank you. This resolution is timely, and timely for two reasons. First, spring is arriving and people will start thinking about lawn care. Second, people are becoming more conscious that what we do to the environment has an impact on it. So we must make good choices that will help the planet. The proposed resolution acknowledges that the use of synthetic chemicals for lawns and pests is harmful and so, therefore, we must limit the use of pesticides to only dire situations. To paraphrase Rachel Carson, the use of pesticides has adverse affects on people and pets, it kills the insects which pollinate our fruits and vegetables. The birds that eat the insects are also killed from these dangerous chemicals. The run-off from fertilizers goes into the streams and then kills the fish and, of course, affects our water supplies. When Jane and I met with Steve Musilli and Jim Woiland a few months ago, we discussed adopting Integrated Pest Management for parks and public facilities and townships, we learned that Cherry Hill was already advanced for synthetic chemicals were rarely used. So we thought that by formalizing this policy we could find ways to educate the public that, about the dangers of pesticide use and also educate them about healthy and natural ways to beautiful yards and gardens. And I'm very glad to hear that such an, an event that is going to be talking about how to have healthy gardens is slated for March 22<sup>nd</sup> and is being put on by Sustainable Cherry Hill. My hope is that we can reach out to as many Cherry Hill people as possible. In fact, as a result of this resolution we have discussed placing the text signs that Jane had showed and information that will inform the public that these parks are pesticide-free zones. Besides being informative, these signs will be educational, hopefully inspiring the public to think about how to manage their own lawns without using harmful and dangerous pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. I would like to thank all those involved in the effort, people in the township have been great, so Steve, Jim Woiland and Jen Kelley, thank you and I also want to thank Lou Gorman and all the CF (?) members. And I certainly want to thank Jane, Jane's been working on this issue for 25 years and she has the primary responsibility for the New Jersey Integrated Pest Management law that was passed which limits the use of pesticides on the school properties. Now I just have one concern and that is what Roxane and Jane already mentioned in paragraph five, that would be the exemption and I hope that that could be amended so you could pass the resolution as Jane sponsored would be best for all of you. Thank you."

**Lori Braunstein 405 Country Club Drive.**

"I'm going to also address the audience because what I'm talking about primarily is a, the community aspect of this resolution that will hopefully be passed in one form or another. It's really wonderful to have public lands and parks and playgrounds be pesticide and synthetic herbicide free, but it's also great to take it to the next step which is in everybody's backyards and front yards and I think we have 30,000 some odd houses in Cherry Hill and most people don't really realize that what they use to either fertilize their lawn or keep the pests off or in their gardens are actually very harmful, as was already discussed. They also don't realize how easy it is, how it's more cost effective and it just really makes sense to use natural, organic and sustainable gardening and lawn care practices. So, on that note we are bringing, as Sue said, Mike McGrath from You Bet Your Garden, I don't know if anybody's every heard him but he's really, extremely knowledgeable, extremely entertaining, sort of manic, it's sure to be an event that's very educational and enlightening as well as fun. We're bringing him to Croft Farm and we hope that everybody will come out and learn about how they can apply these methods to their own backyards. The event is, we do have a small cost to it, it's \$10, \$5 for seniors and students, and we hope to see everybody out there."

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Council Vice President Amato, seconded by Councilman Falcone, the minutes of the Council Meetings of February 9, 2009 and February 23, 2009 were approved by the following vote:

**AYE:** Councilman Falcone, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky

**ABSTAIN:** Councilman Fleisher

## COMMUNICATIONS– TEMPORARY PERMITS – CORRESPONDENCE

**There were applications for raffle/bingo licenses for the following:**

Cherry Hill High School West PTA @ 2101 Chapel Ave, CH	Raffle	04/03/09
Cherry Hill High School, PTA @ 2101 Chapel Ave, CH	Raffle	04/17/09
Union Association of The Children's Home of Burlington County @ Woodcrest Country Club, CH	Raffle	04/27/09

**There were applications for Limo/Taxi Business Licenses for the following:**

A Basic Taxi, Co.  
18 Virginia Ave, CH

Sweet and Sassy Limo  
957 Haddonfield Rd, CH

Cherry Hill Daycare Transport Corp  
53 Haddonfield Rd, CH

**There were applications for Limo/Tax Drivers' Licenses**

Bernardin Maurice, Jr. (Basic Taxi Co)  
101 W Browning Rd Apt, Collingswood

### Drivers from CH Daycare Transport Corp

Yevgeny A Demchenco 508 Highland Ave, CH	Tomas Caban 3153 High St, Camden	Evgueni Prigojine 1101 Jonathan Lane, Marlton
Christian Maisch 108 Merion Rd, CH	Nataliya Fedorenko 35 Aurdice Dr, PA	Armando Valentine 19 S 35th, Camden
Orlando Ruiz 832 N 23rd St, Camden	Boris Rozenblit 58 Woodlake Rd, Marlton	Narcisa Castillo 162 S Fellowship Rd, Maple Shade
Gregorio Rivera 428 Pine St., Camden	Evgueni Prigojine 1101 Jonathan Lane, Marlton	

**On a motion by Councilwoman Kurzweil, seconded by Councilman Garbowski, the applications detailed above were approved by the following vote:**

**AYE: Councilman Falcone, Councilman Fleisher, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky**

#### **REPORTS FROM MAYOR/DEPARTMENT HEADS**

#### **ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING**

2009-3 ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 95-36 ENTITLED "REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCE, TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL" CHAPTER XIV (RENTAL HOUSING) 14-1.4 (DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE RENT REVIEW BOARD)

**On a motion by Councilwoman Lipsett, seconded by Councilman Falcone, Ordinance 2009-3 was approved for final adoption by the following vote:**

**AYE: Councilman Falcone, Councilman Fleisher, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky**

2009-4 ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 95-36, ENTITLED "REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL " ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "CHAPTER 47 -CHARITIES – CHARITABLE CLOTHING BINS" AND AMENDING CHAPTER 95 – FEES TO INCLUDE SECTION 80-8a. CHARITIES – CHARITABLE CLOTHING BINS

**On a motion by Councilman Garbowski, seconded by Councilwoman Kurzweil, Ordinance 2009-4 was approved for final adoption by the following vote:**

**AYE: Councilman Falcone, Councilman Fleisher, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky**

2009-5 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHERRY HILL, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**On a motion by Councilwoman Lipsett, seconded by Council Vice President Amato, Ordinance 2009-5 was approved for final adoption by the following vote:**

**AYE: Councilman Falcone, Councilman Fleisher, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky**

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

2009-3-1 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

**On a motion by Council Vice President Amato, seconded by Councilwoman Lipsett the bill list in the amount of \$ 2,328,704.29 was approved by the following vote:**

**AYE: Councilman Falcone, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky (abstain on all insurance payments)**

**On a motion by Councilwoman Kurzweil, seconded by Councilman Garbowski, the consent Agenda (Resolutions 2009-2-16 thru 2009-2-29) was approved by the following vote:**

**AYE: Councilman Falcone, Councilwoman Lipsett, Councilman Garbowski, Councilwoman Kurzweil, Council Vice President Amato and Council President Polansky**

**ABSTAIN: Councilman Fleisher**

## **ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

NONE

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Sarah Deppa 18 Buxton Road**

“ I live in Wexford Leas, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, near Route 70 and Springdale, and I, at one time, I was so concerned about cancer and worrying about cancer all the time. I have a friend across the street, she’s 65 years old, and she died within a year when she got lymphoma. I really didn’t know who to turn to – well, where’s the cancer coming from? Somehow I got a phone number and a flyer, called up Jane Magocki, and I found she knew very clearly that pesticides on your lawn, including weed killer, weed killer is a very serious pesticide. People think that an herbicide is not a pesticide but herbicides are pesticides, lets get the definition straight, and she told me right away she had over 30 studies which showed a clear relationship between pesticides, including weed killers, and insecticides and cancer. And the kinds of cancers we’re talking about are leukemia, lymphoma, breast cancer and prostate cancer; cancers of the endocrine system in someone. So that was the first time I ever learned there was a relationship between what people were putting on their lawns and cancer. As a result, I’ve gotten very involved in this issue, I hand out flyers sometimes in my neighborhood and I do email flyers. I’m sorry. I do hand out flyers and I try to inform people about this serious issue. I realize there could be a need for a pesticide or if there’s, excuse me, mosquitoes infested with malaria, I realize that. But what we’re using them for on our lawns, to blanket a lawn four times with herbicides which are pesticides which have been linked to lymphoma and other cancers, surely I couldn’t believe that was happening in my country, that this was legal. A one-year study perhaps of these herbicides would show that nothing would happen. But the problem is a 20, a 10, or a 15 or 20 year study shows very clearly that when you have these pesticides on your lawn, the little molecules get into your house, into your carpeting, and into your body and from what I’ve read, I’ve read the 30<sup>th</sup>, the summaries of 30 scientific studies show very clearly that the, all of these pesticides that are mostly coming from the lawn, and also from the termite man who comes every month, are clearly the main cause of many types of cancer and many other types of serious diseases – Parkinson’s disease is another one. So, I’m hoping that this is just the beginning, your passage of this IPM resolution is just the beginning in this town and that it will also spread to our residential sections as well. Thank you.”

**Sharon Giaccio 160 Lucerne Boulevard.**

“Good evening, Town Council, Mayor Platt and neighbors. I’m President of the Board of Education and I’m here this evening with Mr. Steven Robins, who’s Chair of our Business and Facilities Committee. As you know the Board right now is working on the budget for 2009-10.

And we just wanted to let you to know that we’re working very hard to develop a budget that requires a flat tax levy. That is our goal. In that spirit in these uncertain economic times, I would invite you, Mayor Platt, Town Council and neighbors, to work with us in an enhanced spirit of cooperation so that you can help us to balance our challenge of meeting our tough financial goals right now but also for meeting our future goal, which is the future of our children who we know will have to be able to compete not only locally, but globally. As we continue in this process, I hope you’ll be involved, so I invite you to call us, email us, or come to some of our upcoming meetings including a meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>, both of which are totally dedicated to the budget and I look forward to hearing from you. I hope by working together as a team we can make sure that future generations continue to say “Cherry Hill, you couldn’t pick a better place.” Thank you.”

**Lori Braunstein 405 Country Club Drive.**

“So, before we were speaking specifically about the Integrated Pest Management and I thought since I was here I would take the opportunity to speak for a moment to the community about Sustainable Cherry Hill. We are a community group for non-profit organization and our focus is to educate and engage the community in a conversation about sustainability. Sustainability means, similar to what Sharon was saying about really looking at how the decisions that we’re making today affect our future generations and so in that spirit, we host a lot of educational events, one of which is the Mike McGrath event that, of course, I forgot to show the flyer. I would encourage everyone to come out. Our other March event is on March 31<sup>st</sup>, and it’s an interfaith effort. We’re really trying to pull together the diverse religious community of Cherry Hill and surrounding areas and have representatives from the different faith groups come together to watch a movie called Renewal. It’s an award-winning documentary and it shows what various faith groups are doing to help the planet and we thought if we could just get a diverse group of people in the room to start the conversation, then we could then continue it on an on-going basis and have people work together on that. In April, again in the spirit of cooperation between the township and the school, we’re actually putting on a Sustainable Cherry Hill and Cherry Hill Schools Earth Day Festival and it’s coordinated by Jodi Raydit, who’s a Carusi Middle School Teacher and she’s an active member of the Sustainable Cherry Hill. It’s going to be at Carusi Middle School, on April 18<sup>th</sup>, from 11 AM to 3 PM, and she’s just pulled together a great, you know, activities, kids activities, workshops, food, live music, you know there’s going to be smart cars there, and Pruis’s and the new Honda Insight, hopefully, and it’s just going to be a lot of fun and, again, it’s just about building community, bringing people together and having people start to just engage in this conversation about sustainability. So I would encourage everyone to come out to our events, they’re usually free and we do a lot of other stuff, too, and that’s just our March and April, but we have things really planned all the way out for several months, so thank you.”

**Lou Gorman 116 Garfield Avenue,**

“I’m the Chairman of the Cherry Hill Environmental Advisory Committee, and I want to talk about the Integrated Pest Management, which I understand, I missed the testimony from, the previous testimony, but wanted to state about the one item I think that was under question and want to say, first though that Jane did come out and make two presentations, I guess, before Cherry Hill Environmental Advisory Committee. One is a smaller group and then one to our full committee. And the, the sample ordinance, the sample resolution, excuse me, that she provided to us, I think, serves as a basis for what you have in front of you here now, with the possible exception of what we added and that was about the, basically the standard practices, or the best management practices that we thought was, made sense to put in this resolution. Basically, what that is trying to get at is if the state -- DEP or the federal government -- already has an established practice on, on how they manage a certain land per say, I’ll give you an example of phragmites, many of you’ve seen it, these tall reed grass that’s an invasive species, and to get back our wetlands, we want to get back our wetlands which we all know are, are hope, hope everyone knows is, you know we lose wetlands everyday, so it’s a very important environmental type, and to try, and to keep what we have, and to improve what we have, often you need to manage the land, and in this case managing the land where there’s phragmites present is to get rid of the phragmites because it becomes what they call a mono-culture – it’s the only thing that grows. You know it’s worse than zoysia grass or something, and that’s all that grows, it, it basically destroys a wetland, so how do you get rid of it? Well, there’s been a lot of research done by academics from various universities how it’s worked, they’ve tried to work on the ground, varies types of treatment regimens and what they’ve come out with is basically to say, “OK this is what you have to do.” Knocking it down, cutting it down, doesn’t do it. Matter of fact in some cases it increases it. And so what you need is this certain chemical. It’s a, and they’ve tested out which is the best chemical, so you need to kill it. You need to use an herbicide to kill this stuff. And it takes a couple of years of application. And you have to put it on a certain time of year, but they’ve, basically they’ve developed a set of best management practices. They, the federal government, it’s been adopted by the federal government, various land management agencies, including the Fish and Wildlife Service that manages land, especially around wetlands, and DEP and others.(inaudible) ...Basically what this is trying to do is, is leave something in this resolution that says if there’s a best management practice out there that’s been established by the federal government or the state government, that we can adopt that and, and short circuit any of the others, because we already, it’s already been established. And it’s not trying to get around any of it, matter of fact the federal and the state government’s are also required to use integrated pest management and use them in many

cases as well and are advocates for it. So if they've come out with this, and they've already set it up, we don't need to, it seems to me, recreate the wheel. We just adopt the best management practices that are already there and we consult with them first to say "what should we do in this case?" If we want to do, if we want to treat phragmites, or whatever it happens to be, what do we do and they tell us, that's the best management practice and implement that. So, that's what this is trying to get at and it's not, and we are very much into whatever, the Cherry Hill Environmental Advisory Committee are very much in support of the Integrated Pest Management policy, procedure and actions in this resolution as written. So, if there's any question or I guess you don't do that now. Thank you."

**Jim Peeler, 113 Ashbrook Road,**

"I am presently the chairman of your state human relations council. We are responsible for the 21 counties in our state with the formation and effectiveness of human relations councils, the county, municipal or what have you. We are under law and public safety and also work out of the AG's office, the Attorney General and Milner's office. We're hearing a lot about, a great deal about cleaning. Cleaning up our community, cleaning up our sites, cleaning up our government. I'm here personally to commend Mayor Platt and Council for your work in cleaning house. You're cleaning house of people that would gouge or go in our pockets for their own benefit. And the way that you took, Mayor Platt, took the reigns and said "No, we're not going to have this. We're not going to have contractors or anyone in our government or who would take from our township for their benefit. We will not have it." And you did an excellent job, again I commend you and council for your efforts. Thank you."

**Susan Badaracco, 1244 Folkestone Way.**

"I'm very glad to hear from Mrs. Giaccio and Mr. Robins that they're going to be taking a more responsible look at our budget, at our school district budget. This has been a long time coming, remains to be seen, but I certainly hope that we can take them at their word. Along the lines of the budget, I had read in the newspaper and heard also about town that you folks are planning on raising our taxes by 32% of the municipal portion of our taxes, that is. I'm hoping that that's not the case. If it is the case, or even if it's only as high as 17%, I would like to know, please, what your justification for that is. In terms as simple as possible, I'm sure there's a very complicated answer, but what I'm looking for is, is an answer as simplified as possible. And, um, also are there any other people, who have been working for the township you think we might have trouble with in so far as the U.S. Attorney's investigation might be? I understand you want to clean house, Mayor Platt, but I'm wondering if, if there's anything else we might anticipate down the road as, as investigations continue. So if you could give me the answers to those questions, I'd appreciate it. Thank you."

**Nancy O'Dowd, 1208 Cotswold Lane.**

"I also wanted to just respond to Mrs. Giaccio's comments about the school budget. For years we've been trying to get them to look at the budget and be provided thorough and efficient education to the students in Cherry Hill. I'm glad that they're willing to do that now. Maybe they should be looking at how they've been using their surplus for the past few years, that might help with tax, um, holding back on taxes. I also feel I need to comment on the situation that the Mayor was talking about. I know that someone was fired who worked for the township last year and I know you're taking credit now for cleaning house but it concerns me that perhaps something, someone was trying to tell you about this a long time ago and perhaps someone was punished unnecessarily who's really trying to help the taxpayers of the township. Keep everybody honest and open here. So I'm glad to see though that now, maybe, we're going to start looking into things. I also wanted to mention that being that the school district had an audit done, the Key P & G Report, I don't know if any of you have had a chance to read it, but I'm just wondering if that might be something you would want to consider for the township also to have the, look at the books to see if there's been any areas where funds could be managed more efficiently and properly. Thank you."

**Jane Magocki, New Jersey Environmental Federation, 223 Park Avenue, Marlton**

"I think that we'll be able to come to some understanding on the resolution with support, the Integrated Pest Management Resolution with language such as you have proposed. I think that certainly exceptions can be

made for health and safety reasons, but I really don't think that phragmites control rises to that occasion and I would take exception to the fact that the use of a pesticide is a best management practice. The use of a pesticide always has to be balanced in with, are their safer alternatives, is there a natural method, and that's what's considered integrated pest managements. But every school district now has to comply with, they have to go through the exercise of showing that they looked all the alternatives and they picked the safest one. They tried the natural methods first. If that fails, then the trace of the pesticide may be considered with notification, no posting of a sign at the location where the pesticide is applied and that's the kind of fleshed out policy that I've provided for the environmental commission to look at for Council's consideration, policies that are out there, towns and counties like Burlington have adopted. It's a three or four page policy that lays out, you know, each of the steps you take and certainly if there was ever a health or safety emergency that required pesticide, nobody's going to say that that shouldn't happen, a mosquito emergency and so forth. But that's, you know, a health and safety issue, where a pesticide might be warranted and there met, um, that location would be posted with a sign saying, that, you know, a pesticide had been applied, that's just, you know, only fair. So I think we can probably arrive at language that's mutually acceptable and I appreciate the Council's tabling this for a couple more weeks to get it right. Thanks."

**Roxane Shinn, 10 White Oak Court**

"I would just like to say that before you use pesticides on township, publicly-owned land, that you should have hearings and notify the public. There are areas that I know that Lou and I have some argument about whether the phragmites are invading the area when they've been there in a small area for years, and years, and years, and don't seem to be spreading anywhere else. In fact, they take, they seem to take areas that are disturbed soils and that other things have a tough time growing in. So when you remove the phragmites, if you don't restore the underlying water column or soil quality, other things won't grow there. Phragmites will grow in these kinds of areas. So if you have public hearings and people are able to come out and give histories of the site, follow what you think are invasives, take pictures, record it, you can see over time, you can scientifically measure whether you've got a problem or you're just imagining that this could break out into a big problem when that's not, in fact, the case. So I just request that, you know, maybe you add public notification, public hearing, if you do adopt the ordinance. Thank you. I mean resolution."

**Lou Gorman, 116 Garfield Avenue**

"Maybe there's a better forum for this and maybe we just agree to disagree here. From a land manager's standpoint, and I'm, my training is, as a wildlife biologist, that's my bachelor's degree and I work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service and I know these guys, and we had one come up to speak to the very issue that Roxane just talks about. He brought us around, he talked about the site and we have a letter that went to the Mayor and council I believe, it indicated, you know, you need to manage your invasive species and so that's the recommendation from a federal official who has actually seen a particular site that we're talking about here. So, public hearings, when you have professional land managers maybe a step too far. And I think we need to look at that on a case-by-case basis and that's why you here the Environmental Advisory Committee here is, is to look at that kind of thing. That's who we have in, members on there from a number from the Environmental Protection Agency, from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. So we have professionals on this committee that are here so serve Mayor and Council. So, I'd look at that hard before we have a public hearing every time we want to manage pieces of our land that we have guidance from the land management professionals in addition to the, the staff and membership of the Cherry Hill firm, that advisory committee. So, thank you."

**COMMENTS OF COUNCIL:**

**Councilman Falcone:**

"OK, tonight we approved an Ordinance 2009-4 which has to do with those clothing bins that you see popping up all over the town and parking lots of public and private owners and facilities and they are becoming a nuisance to some point. There is no regulation and I think what this town is trying to establish here is the protection of the community, that it's not taking up too much parking, that if they're an unsightly location, that landscaping or fencing be applied just as we do with trash dumpsters because years ago when this township stopped collecting trash for businesses the dumpsters started appearing

everywhere. So, just as these clothing bins are now appearing and they serve a great purpose for your discarded clothing that you don't put in the trash, that they do make a good use into society and go back, there is a concern on all of these bins and some of them may not be exactly legitimate charities. I think that what the concern here is to protect the charities that are trying to do a good job and those people that are not trying to undermine them and take these clothes and resell them somewhere. With regards to Resolution 9-3-3 about the insecticide, please, everyone, if you look at the title here and you read the last half, the maintenance of Cherry Hill Township's public properties and facilities. This is not about the residential properties and to the best of my knowledge, that currently this township uses little or no pesticides or chemicals whatsoever on our parks and playgrounds. So I think if you want to start putting those tags up at many of our playgrounds and parks, I think that would be a great thing so that we can join Voorhees but I will get that confirmed by our Public Works that we're not using the pesticides, and I see Steve shaking your head. So we're not. So we're already on board. I think what the concern here is that in the event that there is a problem and time is taken to look at the problem, and if all other means don't work that are non-pesticide, that the last resort is the pesticide. My concern is that if we don't have time, if we had to take care of a certain rodent, or a certain vegetation that might have been now deemed to be dangerous or whatever, and we need to get rid of that poison ivy instantly because kids that were at a soccer game that strayed off the field while the older brother was playing are all infested with poison ivy, maybe we need to spray that poison ivy tomorrow rather than study it for the next six months to see where it spreading. And like I said, this is something new to me, I think over the next couple of weeks we're going to learn more about it, I think where you really need to concentrate your energies for those of you in pesticide management is residential because I've been talking to some landscaper friends of mine and not only are people not renewing their cutting contracts because of this economy, but they're not renewing their pesticide control that professional landscapers have been doing to their properties for years. I hate to say it, but you're going to see a run at Home Depot and Lowes in the next few weeks on pesticides, chemicals and spreaders because people just don't have them, they haven't used them in years. And although the bags are fully labeled, and tell them how to use this product, people just aren't smart, they're putting seeds on top of weed killer, it's killing their grass seed and that's where your problem is going to be, the run-off into the storm sewers on residential properties. So, as you can tell, there is no problem currently with Cherry Hill Township and our use of pesticides. What you need to concentrate on is education, educating the community and residents who have not picked up a lawn spreader or a bag of chemical in years and they still want that green lawn and can't afford a landscaper. So I would recommend that you steer some energies in that direction. Thank you."

**Councilman Fleisher:** "On the Integrated Pest Management Resolution, I honestly have to defer this science behind it, to people much smarter than myself on that subject, and I have no problem with apologizing and having the professionals and those who are entrenched in the subject make the call. What I did want to point out is that it's just an example of the way government is supposed to work. While there are details that need to be worked out, this is a prime example of a partnership between the township and good, hard-working, honest people who, who have a passion and who have expertise in the given area and while working together with the folks in the Mayor's administration, and by garnering the support of people on Council and the committees across town, we're getting somewhere. And I think it's the type of model that we can use not just for this issue but for others across town. So, I hope we have more of it and I do want to say thank you to each and every person who participated in that project, because in the end that's how we get things done. So, thank you very much."

**Councilman Lipsett:** "I applaud the comments of Councilman Fleisher about the looking into the matter further and thank you very much for taking the time to give us your professional opinions. And thank you to the Cherry Hill Advisory Committee for all the work because, without them, we would be, you know, without the information, we're getting more information so, thank you and I don't mind tabling at all. Also, I want to give kudos to our Public Works for doing a wonderful job with our snow storm removal this past week. I can't believe it's like spring but just a week ago we had snow and they did a great job and thank you to them. Also, for Board of Ed. President Giaccio, thank you for coming out and soliciting our support and encourage working with you and staying updated as your budget process unfolds. Appreciate your honesty and your transparency in the process. And thank you everyone tonight for coming out, I appreciate your time and your support. Thank you."

**Councilman Garbowski:** “I ‘d like to say it was a nice gesture on the part of the school board to come out here and offer your hand to help work with us and all work together to benefit the community. I do hope we can find ways to work together and reduce the tax burden on our citizens. My questions on the, the pesticides, you know I was wondering what circumstances would the state or federal government recommend using pesticides. I always get a little suspicious when the state or federal government gets involved, maybe it’s cheaper to put poison on the ground than do something... you know, that’s timely or whatever, but Marie you brought up a good answer where you say that they have gone step by step process to find out what works and what needs to be managed only by pesticides. So I think Council President Polansky’s recommendation to put in there that after all other steps have been taken that maybe a compromise we can all live with. That’s all I have.”

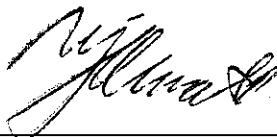
**Councilman Kurzweil:** “Thank you. Just my comments for Resolution 2009-3-3, I want to thank Roxane and the others who, who have brought this issue before us. I certainly believe that if we in Cherry Hill are concerned about the environment and protecting the environment, we should be consistent in everything that we do for the environment. And it’s, there is, I don’t think any poison ivy growing to the extent that we need quick and immediate action on this resolution so, hopefully, we can come together with some type of compromise that we can protect the environment and on public lands we have our children playing on those properties and we do have an obligation to be very careful, and to be circumspect, and to protect their health, not only their health but all of the residents health of Cherry Hill, so I fully support the retraction of that resolution. I also want to give a shout out to the Department of Public Works and to Steve and to Gary for the wonderful work that was done and to the school board, thank you very much for coming. I really want to say thank you not only to the school board, but to the fire district that when all government agencies and taxing authorities get together, and do the best that we can to hold the taxes in line, for the township of Cherry Hill, that’s nothing to me but a win, win, win. So, thanks to the school, thanks to the fire district and we here on the council will do all that we can to, to keep the tax burden low.”

**Council Vice President Amato:** “What more could be said? I will say I have to thank Sharon and the board member for coming here tonight. I know we’re all going to have sleepless night because the Governor’s going to let us know tomorrow how we made out and the school district and also in the municipality. And either your hair will turn gray as, like mine, or what. But, again, I want thank you and I think here on Council we’re going to help you we’ll support you in bringing a quality education to our children and our grandchildren. And I want to thank everyone else for coming out tonight.”

**Council President Polansky:** “I, too, want to thank everyone for coming out tonight. It’s nice to see new faces out in the audience and I also think, again I think we need to recognize School Board President Giaccio, our Fire Chief Bob Giorgio. Also recognize that we also have other department heads from the township who attend these meetings; for example, our Police Chief, Charlie Jones is here, our Head of Public Works, Steve Musilli is here, Jim Wioland from the Recreation Department is here, and I’m sure I’m missing somebody – our Township Clerk, our Finance Department, our Legal Department, so... the Mayor’s Office, our business administrator, our Clerk-of-the-Works, in the back... so, everybody is here to listen to what you have to say when you come out to speak and we do listen. And we listen very closely. There was a comment by one speaker who, who asked a question about the budget. Recognize we’re in the ninth month of our budget right now. So the budget you keep hearing about is the budget we’ve been working on since July 1 of 2008, which was, at least partially approved under very different economic circumstances than we face today and I can assure you that the new budget that we will adopt in, going forward, which begins in July of 2009 will look very different than the current budget. That being said, since we still don’t know what our final state aid figures are for the current budget that we’re in, we still are not permitted by law to adopt a budget and, maybe one day before we’re in the next budget year we’ll be able to do that. You should also know that we, a number of the council members and some of the administration were here earlier tonight for a program put on by one of our insurers. Not all council members were here for that because some of them had already taken the course, but by us attending the course, we save \$250 for each person who attended the program, so every little bit helps and we’re doing our part to save every dollar that we can. Last, but not least, I want to comment, I think, ordinance,

the Resolution 2009-3-3, I think it's a good ordinance, I think it needs a little fine-tuning, but I think the concept is something that we need to adopt. I think you'll probably see us at our next meeting adopting the ordinance as it's fine-tuned. There's just a few questions that council members need to get a little more comfortable with, but we don't want to, I don't want to see us tying people's hands so that in appropriate situations, they can't react quickly, when quick reaction is needed. And last, but not least, I had the pleasure about a week and a half ago of attending the roll out of Sustainable New Jersey, which is an attempt to bring statewide what we have been doing here in Cherry Hill for some time. We are far, far ahead of the overwhelming majority of this state and we have wonderful, wonderful volunteers and township employees who have been working very, very hard to try to make Cherry Hill more environmentally friendly, both with the way the government operates as well as to educate the citizens in our community about what they can do. Lori Bronstein's here who chairs Sustainable Cherry Hill and she has a wonderful, wonderful, wonderful group of people that are just doing great things. The school district is now working with Sustainable Cherry Hill and I think by getting our children involved in these programs, we can have some very, very long-term effects. But thank you all again for coming out this evening and hopefully we'll see you in a couple of weeks."

**ADOPTED: MARCH 23, 2009**



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**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**ATTEST:**



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**NANCY L. SAFFOS, RMC  
TOWNSHIP CLERK**