

SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP

Minutes

April 12, 2016

This meeting was opened and called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor George B. Harper, Jr. who stated this meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, having been duly advertised.

Roll Call

The clerk was asked to call the roll. Present were: Committeewoman Kamala M. Hull, Deputy Mayor Fred MacDonald and Mayor George B. Harper, Jr.

Also in attendance: Ron Allhands; Stan Dutkus, John Snyder, Steve Williamson, Gregg Papp, Hixon & Sharon Spangenberg; Ryan Earley; Glenn & Gayle Hull, Russell Spinks; Keith Utter, Mary Burkhardt; Joseph & Betsy Pinzone, Joseph Salokas

The Mayor Harper invited all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ordinance:

**SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE 2016-01
CALENDAR YEAR 2016
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 0.0 % unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Sandyston in the County of Sussex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its **CY 2016** budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Sandyston hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to **\$31,265.33** in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Sandyston hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the governing body of the Township of Sandyston, in the County of Sussex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the **CY 2016** budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Sandyston shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to **\$31,265.33**, and that the **CY 2016** municipal budget for the Township of Sandyston be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

The Committee reviewed **Ordinance 2016-01**. Mayor Harper made a motion to open the meeting to the public for the public hearing of **Ordinance 2016-01**, seconded by Committeeman MacDonald and unanimously carried. There being no comment from the public, Committeeman MacDonald made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously carried. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2016-01**, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried. **A Roll Call Vote followed: Ayes: Hull, MacDonald, Harper (3); Nays 0; Absent: 0; Abstain 0.**

Resolution:

SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP

R-29-2016

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATING IN SELF-EXAMINATION PROGRAM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE 2016 BUDGET YEAR

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 thru 7.5, the Township of Sandyston has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the Township meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2016 budget year, so now therefore

BET IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at 40A:4-45.3 et seq. are fully met (Complies with the "CAP" law.)
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. Pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated.
 - b. Items of appropriations are properly set forth.
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement, and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced, publicly advertised, and adopted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.
6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

The Committee reviewed **R-29-2016**. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve **R-29-2016**, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Public Hearing of 2016 Budget:

- Francis "Bud" Jones, Nisivoccia, LLP
- Jessica M. Caruso, CFO/CTC

Mayor Harper welcomed Mr. Jones and Mrs. Caruso and invited them to speak on the 2016 Sandyston Township Budget. Mr. Jones stated this budget is the second year of the raising of funds for the revaluation and an increased in the appropriation for the Capital Improvement Fund. Mr. Jones discussed the current appropriations, tax collection, the status of the revaluation and tax appeals. Mayor Harper noted the current operating expenses: Salaries & Wages for 2016 is \$290,032 (2015 the amount was \$283,595) and Other Expenses for 2016 \$772,403 (2015 the amount was \$771,809). Mayor Harper noted the majority of the increase for the revaluation, as well as increasing our Capital Improvement Fund. Mayor Harper stated there had been several years where the Township did not put aside any money in the Capital Improvement Fund and the fund has decreased considerably. Mayor Harper also noted the Reserve For Uncollected Taxes for 2016 is \$180,979 (2015 the amount was \$178,200) and stated tax collection has done well. Deputy Mayor MacDonald noted there were six appeals filed for 2016.

Mayor Harper made a motion to open the meeting to the public for the public hearing of **2016 Sandyston Township Budget**, seconded by Committeeman MacDonald and unanimously carried. There being no comment from the public, Committeeman MacDonald made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously carried. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2016-01**, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried. A **Roll Call Vote followed**: Ayes: Hull, MacDonald, Harper (3); Nays 0; Absent: 0; Abstain 0.

The Committee thanked Mr. Jones and Mrs. Caruso for their time and work with the budget.

Mayor Harper read the following into the record:

"BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of Sandyston, County of Sussex, that the budget herein before set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$638,193.00 for municipal purposes." Mayor Harper made a motion to approve this resolution, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously approved.

Minutes: The Committee reviewed the regular meeting minutes of March 8, 2016 and the Executive Session meeting minutes of February 9, 2016. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes for March 8, 2016 and the Executive Session meeting minutes of February 9, 2016, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Tax Collector Report: The Tax Collector Report was presented for the month of **March 2016** with total receipts Month-To-Date of \$121,402.70 and a Year-To-Date total of \$1,368,215.32. Mayor Harper made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's Report as submitted, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for the month of **March 2016** was presented with a beginning balance of \$1,529,893.55, total receipts of \$146,905.03 and total disbursements of \$261,161.96 leaving an ending balance of \$1,415,636.62. Mayor Harper read the following balances: General Capital Account \$150,289.91, Animal Control Escrow \$8,169.88, Public Assist Escrow \$3,535.89, Unemployment Escrow \$24,510.08, COAH Trust \$34,991.73, Security Asst. Fund \$18,589.71 and the Small Cities Master \$4,777.06. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously approved.

Payment of Vouchers: The bills list was submitted for approval in the amount of \$786,703.17. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve the bills list, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously approved.

Departmental Reports:

- Resignation of Wesley Powers, Fire Official –

Mayor Harper made a motion to accept the resignation of Wesley Powers, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

Mayor Harper discussed the current road program and the plan to work on four miles per year versus the five miles yearly that has been done in the past. Mayor Harper also explained the progress of the new truck from Route 23 Auto Mall where we will be purchasing a 2017 truck for the 2015 price – as the 2016 truck we were supposed to receive was not correct when it was reviewed by Route 23 Auto Mall.

The Clerk noted she has been working on updating the drug testing policy for the Township.

Old Business:

Draft Dog Ordinance: Mayor Harper invited Mr. Salokas to come forward to discuss the draft dog ordinance and offer his suggestions. Mr. Salokas discussed the number of dogs with the Committee confirming the number to be four dogs per premises and recommended reviewing this section. Mr. Salokas discussed the definition of the word Kennel. The clerk advised, per the Township Attorney, the differences in the definition "Kennel" as one definition has to do with the activity and one has to do with the structure. Mr. Salokas felt the fines for nuisance should be more in line or comparable to the general penalty. Mr. Salokas also questioned the construction of a structure for menacing or vicious dogs when the ordinance restricts a kennel in all zones. Mayor Harper stated it is not the intent to restrict all dog houses, rather the number of dogs kept in that structure at one location but agreed this matter needed to be reviewed for clarity. Mayor Harper thanked Mr. Salokas for his time and input on the matter.

Mary Burkhardt, Sunrise Trail, came forward and asked about “fostering” dogs and if the dog would need a license and if the number of dogs still applied. Mayor Harper confirmed the number of dogs per property would apply. Mayor Harper asked to refer the questions to the Township Attorney for clarity. Mayor Harper thanked Mrs. Burkhardt for her questions.

Ryan Earley, Route 560, came forward and asked about dogs on public school property and public parks and asked if this would ban pets from school or public property. Mayor Harper suggested referring this question to the Board of Education for Sandyston-Walpack School for their thoughts on the matter as well as the township insurance agent.

New Business:

Blue Light Permit Renewals: The Committee reviewed the applications for renewals of Blue Light Permits for Stanley Dutkus and G. Brett Harper. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve the renewal of the Blue Light Permit, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Blue Light Permit Initial: The Committee reviewed the applications for initial Blue Light Permits for David Lobban and Parker Lobban. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve the initial application of the Blue Light Permit, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

Use of Ballfield/Facility Request:

Sandyston Recreation: Soccer games/practices April – July: The Committee reviewed a request for use of the soccer fields for soccer games and practices from April through July for Sandyston Recreation. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve the use for this purpose, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

Sandyston Recreation – change of date for Sandyston Day to Sandyston, June 11, 2016: The Committee reviewed a request to change the date originally requested for Sandyston Day to Saturday, June 11, 2016, previously Sandyston Recreation had requested Sunday, June 12, 2016. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously carried.

STVFD: Tractor Parade, Saturday, August 27, 2016: The Committee reviewed a request for use of the municipal complex for the Tractor Parade event held by the Sandyston Township Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday, August 27, 2016. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Sandyston Township Historical Society, Program, Sunday, June 12, 2016: The Committee reviewed a request for use of the meeting hall by the Sandyston Township Historical Society for a program to be held on Sunday, June 12, 2016. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Quote: Lawn Mowing Municipal Complex: The Committee reviewed the quotes submitted for the mowing of the municipal complex by Tanzola Farm and Lawn in the amount of \$3,600 and Pierson Landscaping in the amount of \$4,900. Mayor Harper noted the quote from Tanzola is the same amount from 2015. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve the quote submitted by Tanzola Farm and Lawn, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Quote: Cleaning Municipal Building: The Committee reviewed a quote submitted for the cleaning of the municipal building. The Clerk noted two quotes were requested, however, Chelbus did not provide a quote to the Township. Mayor Harper noted the quote from Allen Companies was received holding the price from 2015 in the amount of \$243.64. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve the quote submitted by the Allen Companies, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

AED Grant: Sandyston Township/Sandyston Fire: The Committee reviewed a request by Sandyston Recreation to consider a grant of two AED's (Automatic External Defibrillator) to be installed in the municipal building. Sandyston Recreation has applied for this grant provided by the Newton Medical Center Foundation. One would be installed on the fire department side of the building and one would be installed on the municipal side of the building. A discussion followed regarding the placement of the AED on the municipal side of the building so as to be accessible and protected by the weather and theft. The Committee suggested reaching out to other towns and recreation for comments on the matter.

Resolutions:

**SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP
R-31-2016**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN AS REQUIRED BY THE
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DIVISION OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SANDYSTON, COUNTY OF SUSSEX,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

WHEREAS, the Township of Sandyston received the 2015 Audit Report from Nisivoccia, LLP on March 7, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston must pass a resolution within sixty (60) days of receipt of the annual audit that approves the Corrective Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Annual Audit for the Township of Sandyston produced one finding and shall be analyzed and corrected as shown on the attached Corrective Action Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, hereby approves the Corrective Action Plan as prepared by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Sandyston; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a certified copy of the approving resolution together with the Corrective Action Plan shall be sent to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services. A copy will also be on file with the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Sandyston.

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

SIMPLE CORRECTIVE ACTION REPORT ITEM

SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP

SUSSEX COUNTY

April 12, 2016

FINDING #1

1. **DESCRIPTION:** Management and the Township Committee should be aware and realize that the concentration of duties and responsibilities in a limited number of individuals is not desirable from a control point of view.
2. **ANALYSIS:** The various departments/offices of the Township are responsible for the issuance of permits and licenses, collection of taxes, collection of permit and license fees, and recording of collections. The disbursement of funds and reconciliation of bank accounts is performed by one person.

3. **CORRECTIVE ACTION:** Due to the limited number of personnel of the Township, it is difficult to completely segregate duties. However, a greater effort will be made by the Township to ensure that as many controls and safeguards are in place to improve segregation of duties.
4. **IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** The policy is currently in effect.

The Committee reviewed **R-31-2016**. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve **R-31-2016**, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

**SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP
R-32-2016
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF FIRE OFFICIAL FOR THE
TOWNSHIP OF SANDYSTON**

WHEREAS, Wesley Powers has tenured his resignation as Fire Official for the Township of Sandyston effective April 1, 2016, therefore the Township of Sandyston is in need of a Fire Official effective April 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Sandyston currently has a shared service agreement with the Township of Hampton, and said Fire Official will also perform the duties of fire official for the Township of Hampton per the agreement on file with the Municipal Clerk; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, that **Charles E. Luxton** be appointed and designated Fire Official for Sandyston Township effective April 1, 2016 and the salary shall be \$50.00 per inspection for Sandyston Township Fire Official and \$10,200 in 2016, \$10,404 in 2017, \$10,612 in 2018 and \$10,824 in 2019 per the Shared Service Agreement with Hampton Township, plus mileage for each Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, **Charles E. Luxton** is not eligible to be enrolled in the pension system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Fire Official position is a part-time position and, therefore, **Charles E. Luxton** shall not be entitled to health insurance benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Municipal Clerk is authorized to forward a copy of this Resolution to the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety, PO Box 809, Trenton, NJ 08625; Sussex County Sheriff's Office, ATTN: Michael F. Strada, Sheriff, 39 High Street, Newton, NJ 07860; Sussex County Fire Marshal, Attention Virgil Rome, 39 High Street, Newton, NJ 07860; Sussex County Office of Emergency Management, 135 Morris Turnpike, Newton, NJ 07860; Township of Hampton, 1 Rumsey Way, Newton, NJ 07860; Sandyston Township Volunteer Fire Department, 133A Route 645, Sandyston, NJ 07826 and Hampton Township Fire & Rescue, PO Box 646, Augusta, NJ 07822.

Mayor Harper stated two people were interviewed for the Fire Official position. Mayor Harper stated both applicants were excellent. Mayor Harper recommended the hiring of Charles Luxton. The Committee reviewed **R-32-2016**. Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to approve **R-32-2016**, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously carried.

SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP
R-33-2016
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT SUSSEX COUITY C.L.E.A.R. PROGRAM-
COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT ADDITITION RECOVERY

WHEREAS, it is well-established that drug use and addiction is a major problem that impacts all of us on multiple levels; individuals, families and communities bear the many ill- effects that it has on our safety, health and the economy; and

WHEREAS, the alarming reality of the heroin/opiate epidemic, in particular, has created an urgent need to work together to reverse these trends; and

WHEREAS, one in three people are affected by substance use disorders, no matter their occupation, income level, race or community status; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 there were 25 overdose deaths in Sussex County due to heroin, prescription medications and illicit substances, as well as 44 overdoses where Narcan was used to revive a person; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that for any anti-drug program to be effective, strong enforcement must be supported by an effort to reduce the demand for illegal substances and this is best accomplished through continued prevention education along with improved access to treatment and recovery support;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Committee of the Township of Sandyston, that we do hereby resolve our community's support of the Sussex County C.L.E.A.R. – Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery program, whose mission it is to form a collaborative network of professionals in our community who will facilitate medical intervention, improved access to treatment and recovery support for those struggling with drug addiction who seek assistance, without fear of arrest or prosecution, in order to make a positive difference in the quality of life for individuals, families and our entire community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge other Sussex County Municipalities to similarly adopt resolutions in support of the Sussex County C.L.E.A.R. Program and for individuals to visit www.clearprogram.org to learn more and join in support of this important community program.

The Committee reviewed R-33-2016. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve R-33-2016, seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Ordinances:

SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE 2016-02
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE II,
ENTITLED DEFINITIONS; AND ARTICLE III, ENTITLED ZONING DISTRICTS

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston, that Chapter 150, Article II, Entitled “Definitions,” and Article III, Entitled “Zoning Districts,” is hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE II

Definitions

150-4 Definitions and word usage.

Page 150:11 - Kennel

Any structure for dogs or cats. This includes any building, structure, fenced area, lean-to of any materials where dogs or cats can be housed, fed, breed, or cared for, whether free of charge or for money. For the purpose of this definition, anyone having five or more dogs or cats on their property will be considered having a kennel.

ARTICLE III
Zoning Districts
150-20 Prohibited uses and activities.

M. Kennels of any type, and as further defined in Section 150-4 of this code, are prohibited in all zones.

Repealer.

All sections of the Municipal Code of the Township of Sandyston, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter are hereby repealed.

The Committee reviewed **Ordinance 2016-02**. Mayor Harper made a motion to open the meeting to the public for the public hearing of **Ordinance 2016-02**, seconded by Committeeman MacDonald and unanimously carried. There being no comment from the public, Committeeman MacDonald made a motion to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Mayor Harper and unanimously carried. Mayor Harper made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2016-02**, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried. A **Roll Call Vote followed: Ayes:** Hull, Macdonald, Harper (3); **Nays 0; Absent: 0; Abstain 0.**

SANDYSTON TOWNSHIP
2016-03

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$5,850.00 CURRENTLY LOCATED WITHIN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SANDYSTON FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) SETS OF TURNOUT GEAR

WHEREAS, there is currently the sum of \$5,850.00 in the Capital Improvement Fund; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed appropriate to make use of the \$5,850.00 for the purchase of turnout gear; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by Township Committee of the Township of Sandyston, County of Sussex and State of New Jersey, that

SECTION 1: There is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Township of Sandyston the sum of \$5,850.00 for the purchase of turnout gear.

SECTION 2: All ordinances or parts of ordinances, which are inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance, be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

SECTION 3: This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon proper passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Mayor Harper made a motion to introduce **Ordinance 2016-03**, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried. A **Roll Call Vote** followed: Ayes: Hull, MacDonald, Harper (3); Nays (0); Absent (0); Abstain (0). Mayor Harper stated **Ordinance 2016-03** will have a public hearing the next meeting of Tuesday, May 10 2016 at 9:00 am.

Correspondence: The Committee reviewed the correspondence. Mayor Harper noted the numerous OPRA Requests. Mayor Harper also noted the Legislative meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 4:00 pm in Lafayette Township. Mayor Harper also noted a letter received by Mr. William Gettler regarding the hiring of the Superintendent as well as taxes. Mayor Harper suggested referring the letter to the Superintendent of both Kittatinny Regional High School and Sandyston-Walpack Consolidated School.

Open Meeting To Floor:

Mayor Harper made a motion to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

Mary Burkhardt, Sunrise Trail, came forward and discussed the NJ Legislature reviewing the idea of a gas tax for the State of New Jersey. A discussion ensued around the gas tax and the declining funds in the NJDOT Trust Fund. Deputy Mayor MacDonald suggested discussing the matter at the meeting with our Legislators on Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

Keith Utter, Route 206, came forward and discussed the history of the gas tax and how the fund has been bankrupted. A discussion ensued around the gas tax and the declining funds in the NJDOT Trust Fund.

Glenn Hull, Bevans Road, came forward and discussed statistics relevant to Sussex County involving declining population, Lis Pendens filings, foreclosures, declining school population, and property taxes as provided to him by Richard Vohden, current Sussex County Freeholder. Mr. Hull also referred to the correspondence list with regard to Horsfield v. Sandyston Township and the legal expenses.

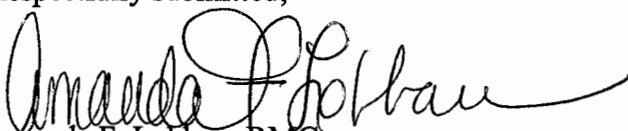
Mayor Harper made a motion to close the public comment, seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald and unanimously carried.

Mayor Harper read through the list of upcoming events:

Regular Township Meeting:	Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 9:00 am
Planning Board Regular:	Monday, May 2, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Seniors Meeting:	Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 12:00 pm
Recreation Meeting:	Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 6:30 pm
St. Thomas the Apostle Tricky Tray:	Friday, May 6, 2016 7:00 pm – 12:00 pm
STVFD Chicken BBQ:	Sunday, June 26, 2016 at 1:30 pm
DVUMC Chicken BBQ:	Saturday, August 20, 2016
STVFD Tractor Parade:	Saturday, August 27, 2016 at 3:30 pm
Sandyston Day:	Saturday, June 11, 2016 12 pm – 5 pm

Adjournment: Deputy Mayor MacDonald made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm seconded by Committeewoman Hull and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda F. Lobban, RMC
Municipal Clerk