

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2008 CAUCUS MEETING OF THE
HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOROUGH OF MT.
EPHRAIM**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order.

SALUTE TO FLAG:

All present pledged their allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

ABSENT

Commissioner Gilmore	___x___	_____
Commissioner Greenwald	___x___	_____
Mayor Wolk	___x___	_____

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

None

“OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW” ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mayor Wolk announced this Meeting has been advertised and notices posted in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS:

Administration & Finance:

Mayor Wolk indicated we are continuing work on the 2008 budget. He also indicated we need to review and possibly edit the Interlocal agreement with Bellmawr regarding the repairs to the ambulance vehicles. Mayor Wolk the announced he had spoken with the Mayor of Oaklyn regarding the combined courts. A brief discussion took place, and then Chief Dobleman questioned possibly looking into the feasibility of merging a 3rd municipality with the combined court. Mayor Wolk the showed a letter he received from the JIF regarding our late payment last year. It was decided the Solicitor and CFO would draft a letter requesting a waiver of the late fees assessed to the Borough as there were two CFO’s within a 60 day period, as well as an election with a new administration taking over.

Police:

Commissioner Gilmore indicated he is still in contract negotiations with the Police Department. He further indicated that it appears the Emmett matter is coming to an end.

There has been some back and forth with the figures and a few concessions have been made. He then spoke about meeting with a representative for the speed humps that had a lot of good information. Commissioner Gilmore then stated that the Town Watch meeting went well.

Emergency Management:

Jay Vilardo reported that they are working with Joe Roberts' office to replace the bus. A new bus can run anywhere from 100,000 to 120,000. At this time the parking brake is being repaired. He further stated that the trailer is in as well as the money from the trailer.

Fire:

No report.

Public Works:

There was a brief discussion about possibly amending our Ordinance regarding street excavations. There are changes that need to be made so that when contractors do underground work and open up our streets, the streets are not left in substandard condition. John Wenner submitted those proposed changes to Commissioner Greenwald. The Solicitor will review and draft the changes into an ordinance which may be available for the March 6th meeting. Chris Fitzgerald then announced there would be an additional pick-up as of April 1st. There is now a proper way of disposing of electronics, so we will now pick up electronics every Thursday with the exception of televisions. He also reported we received an award this morning at the JIF breakfast, which we will announce at the general meeting and the \$700.00 voucher will be forthcoming. DPW also informed that trash will be picked up on Good Friday, but they will be off on Easter Monday. The Borough Engineer, Mr. Federici reported that the Phase II portion of the Kings Highway Streetscape came back from the State and we have to meet with SHPO to continue the application. He expects that 3rd Avenue will begin on April 1st, and the Year 28 Block Grant will be re-bidding this Thursday and the Year 30 applications will be sent after the March 6th meeting.

Commissioners:

Mayor Wolk indicated he had two possible grants for Shining Star Park and a possible one for Norcross Park. He said Dave McPeak is working on this matter. Mayor Wolk then gave the Clerk the Commissioners letter for the Messenger and asked that she "tidy it up" and get it to the Editor.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mayor Wolk opened the floor to the public for the public portion. Hearing no comments, Mayor Wolk closed the Public Portion.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mayor Wolk and seconded by Commissioner Greenwald to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.