

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 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:

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
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 there is a 60 Plus meeting this Thursday at noon at the Bell Road Firehouse. He asked that Ken Jones set up the tables for the group. Mayor Wolk then spoke about the late fee we received from the JIF. He had requested the Solicitor to draft a letter asking that the fee be waived due to the fact that at the time, the previous administration was still in office, and the new administration came in and has paid the premiums on time. The Mayor then indicated he was at a meeting of the JIF, and the Board of the JIF opted to reduce the penalty in half. He thanked the Solicitor for drafting the letter, but we ended up not needing it.

Police:

The Police Chief, Ed Dobleman asked the Clerk to put a resolution on the next agenda supporting the “Click It or Ticket” Mobilization, May 19 thru June 1, 2008. Commissioner Gilmore indicated the contract negotiations with the Captains and under are near completion. He reported there had been an accident with the new fire truck, but that the truck is still operational and the insurance company is aware. He further stated he is working on an Interlocal agreement with Bellmawr to repair the ambulances. Commissioner Gilmore also indicated that due to the rising costs of maintaining/repairing the Borough vehicles, we may need to beef up that line item.

Emergency Management:

No report.

Fire:

No report.

Public Works:

Commissioner Gilmore asked whether we would be able to repair the potholes on Thompson Avenue and several other streets badly in need of repair. Mayor Wolk indicated he is aware of the problem and as much as he would like to address those problems right away, it is not in the budget to do so right now. He stated the problems would be addressed, just not right now. The Engineer, Joe Federici reported that the contractors would be out on Green Avenue to address a couple of problems. #rd Avenue will start on March 31st, and it is approximately a 45 day project and two additional trees need to be removed at an additional cost of about \$5,000.00. He further indicated we received the approval letter from the State for 5th Avenue, so we will be going out to bid very soon. He stated that we would try to make the repair of the inlets on Thompson and Glover Avenues an in-house project. There was a brief discussion about the status of the planning board members with regard to the need for more alternates. Commissioner Greenwald will speak with Tara Martin about possible new members and advise the Clerk of the names for a resolution to be adopted at the April 3rd General Meeting. Commissioner Gilmore indicated that after review of the budget, we may need to beef up the vehicle maintenance line item.

Commissioners:

No further comments.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle LeViege
Acting Borough Clerk