

ANDOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

**REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 05, 2007**

The Reorganization meeting of the Andover Township Committee was called to order at 7:35 P.M., by Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig followed by a salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Those present: Mr. Gilsenan, Mr. Grotyohann,
Ms. Phoebus, Mr. Walsh
Also present: Administrator Padula, Attorney Semrau

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT Statement of compliance with Chapter 231, P. L. 1975 was made by Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig.

SUNSHINE NOTICE: Adequate notice of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by posting written notice and agenda of the meeting at the Andover Township Municipal Building, by mailing such notice and agenda to the New Jersey Herald, Daily Record and Star Ledger and by filing same with the Township Clerk.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Committee and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a citizen or Committee member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

OATHS OF OFFICE

**DULY ELECTED TO THE ANDOVER TOWNSHIP
COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM
JANUARY 1, 2007 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009**

**GAIL PHOEBUS
ALEX GILSENAN**

OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY – GAIL PHOEBUS, TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

At this time, Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig conducted the oath of office ceremony for Gail Phoebus for the position of Township Committee member for the term January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2009. Her husband Bob held the Bible. A round of applause followed.

OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY – ALEX GILSENAN, TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

At this time, Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig conducted the oath of office ceremony for Alex Gilsenan for the position of Township Committee member for the term January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2009. His wife Laura held the Bible. A round of applause followed.

REGULAR APPOINTMENTS BY COMMITTEE

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**RESOLUTION #2007-01 NOMINATION AND ELECTION BY THE
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO FILL THE
POSITION OF MAYOR FOR THE TERM
JANUARY 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2007**

At this time Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig distributed ballots to the governing for their vote for the position of Mayor. Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig read the ballots and the votes were as follows: Mr. Walsh – 3 votes and Ms. Phoebus – 1 vote. In accordance with the Code, Mr. Walsh was elected Mayor.

Ms. Phoebus moved to adopt resolution #R2007-01 appointing Tom Walsh to the office of Mayor for the term January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grotyohann and carried unanimously.
(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

OATH OF OFFICE Presentation of Gavel

The Oath of Office ceremony was conducted and Debbie Walsh held the Bible for her husband Tom as he was sworn into office. A round of applause and congratulations followed. Mayor Tom Walsh was presented the gavel as he took his seat on the dais.

**RESOLUTION #2007-02 NOMINATION AND ELECTION BY THE
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO FILL THE
POSITION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE TERM
JANUARY 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2007**

At this time Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig distributed ballots to the governing for their vote for the position of Deputy Mayor. Assistant Municipal Clerk Huelbig read the ballots and the votes were as follows: Mr. Grotyohann – 3 votes and Ms. Phoebus – 1 vote. In accordance with the Code, Mr. Grotyohann was elected Deputy Mayor.

Ms. Phoebus moved to adopt resolution #R2007-02 appointing Charles Grotyohann to the office of Deputy Mayor for the term January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilsenan and carried unanimously.
(See Insert Attached to These Minutes)

OATH OF OFFICE Mr. Grotyohann was sworn in as Deputy Mayor while Debbie Walsh held the Bible. A round of applause followed.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Walsh asked that the agenda be amended as follows:

*UNDER CONSENT AGENDA:

**RESOLUTIONS:

To Amend #R2007-03- **Committee Meeting Schedule - Change meeting date of February 13, 2007 to February 12, 2007**

To Add #R2007-28 - **Resolution to accept Robert Webster's letter of resignation from his position of Township Committee Member effective January 4, 2007**

At this time, Mayor Walsh read Mr. Webster's letter of resignation into the record.

Attorney Semrau asked that Resolution #R2007-08 be amended by including the filing of counterclaims and counter appeals.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA Ms. Phoebus moved to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Grotyohann and carried unanimously.

*CONSENT AGENDA

*MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS

- #R2007-03 Committee Meeting Schedule
- #R2007-04 Official Newspapers
- #R2007-05 Unemployment Compensation
- #R2007-06 Rates of Interest on Delinquent Taxes
- #R2007-07 Cancel Tax Amounts under \$10.00
- #R2007-08 Tax Assessor to Defend Tax Appeals
- #R2007-09 Tax Payments of Less Than 100%
- #R2007-10 Authorize the Tax Collector to Charge \$25.00 Fee
For Each of Two Tax Sale Mailings
- #R2007-11 Appointment of Various Officers
- #R2007-12 Professional Services - Appointment of Municipal Attorney
Fred Semrau, Esq.
- #R2007-13 Professional Services - Appointment of Township Auditor
Nisivoccia and Company
- #R2007-14 Professional Services - Appointment of Municipal Court
Prosecutor - **Anthony M. Arbore**
- #R2007-15 Professional Services - Appointment of Alternate Municipal
Court Prosecutor - **Robert D. Correale**
- #R2007-16 Professional Services - Appointment of Municipal Court
Public Defender - **Daniel A. Colfax**
- #R2006-17 Professional Services - Appointment of Conflict Municipal Court
Public Defender - **James P. Sloan, Esq.**

2007 REORGANIZATION MEETING

***CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)**

***MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS (CONTINUED)**

- #R2007-18 Risk Management Consultant's Agreement
David J. Sgalia of H.O. Baker, Inc.
- #R2007-19 Professional Services - Appointment of Animal
Pound Facility - **Sam Castimore, VMD**
- #R2007-20 Cash Management Plan
- #R2007-21 Appointment of Public Agency Compliance Officer
Vita Thompson, R.M.C., Municipal Clerk
- #R2007-22 Appointment of Finance Committee/Capital Projects
- #R2007-23 Appointment of Municipal Engineer
Joseph R. Golden, P.E., P.P.
- #R2007-24 Appointment of Bond Counsel
McManimon & Scotland, LLC
- #R2007-25 Tax Map Maintenance
Delaware Valley Associates, Inc.
- #R2007-26 2007 Temporary Budget
- #R2007-27 Appointment of Labor Counsel
Scarinci & Hollenbeck, LLC

(See Inserts Attached to These Minutes)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Phoebus moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Grotyohann and carried unanimously.

REGULAR APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR

LAND USE BOARD

Class I	Tom Walsh, Mayor	1 year term (2007)
Class II	Gerald Huelbig	1 year term (2007)
Class IV	Michael Lensak	4 year term (2010)
Alternate No. 1	Ron Raffino	2 year term (2008)
Alternate No. 2	(Vacancy)	2 year term (2008)
Alternate No. 3	(Vacancy)	1 year term (2007)
Alternate No. 4	(Vacancy)	1 year term (2007)
Citizens' Advisory	Tom Baumann	1 year term (2007)
Citizens' Advisory	Jeff Wolk	1 year term (2007)
Citizens' Advisory	Carla Kostelnik	1 year term (2007)
Citizens' Advisory	Tony Massaro	1 year term (2007)
Citizens' Advisory	Elsworth Bensley	1 year term (2007)

2007 REORGANIZATION MEETING

REGULAR APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR (CONTINUED)

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Member	Harvey Hummel	3 year term (2009)
Regular Member	Kathryn Richardson	3 year term (2009)
Regular Member	(Vacancy)	3 year term (2009)
Alternate No. 1	(Vacancy)	2 year term (2007)
Alternate No. 2	(Vacancy)	2 year term (2008)
Chairperson	Lois de Vries	1 year term (2007)

OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Regular Member	Gail Phoebus	3 year term (2009)
Regular Member	Diane Gillespie	1 year term (2007)
Regular Member	Recreation Member	1 year term (2007)
Regular Member	Dan Freed	1 year term (2007)
Regular Member	Mark Treiber	1 year term (2007)
Regular Member	Mary Bobbe	1 year term (2007)
Regular Member	Carla Kostelnik	1 year term (2007)
Alternate No. 1	Mary Grace Pettreuti-Rudolph	1 year term (2007)
Alternate No. 2	Bob Schedinger	1 year term (2007)

APPOINTMENT OF THE 2007 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AS RECOMMENDED BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR WITH APPROVAL BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Walsh formally accepted the Letter of Resignation filed by Emergency Management Coordinator Gerald Huelbig.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Bob Reidmiller	Coordinator (12/31/08)
Daniel Murphy	Deputy Coordinator
Alan Monaco	Deputy Coordinator
Gerald Huelbig	Deputy Coordinator
Lucille Iacobelli	Deputy Coordinator
Mayor	Mayor or Designee
Steven Padula	Township Administrator
Phillip Coleman	Chief of Police
Eric Danielson	Fire Chief
Darren Dickinson	Assistant Supervising Laborer
Ann Foster	Lakeland Emergency Squad Chief
James Cutler	Construction Official
Bob Mayer	Nursing Home or Business

Ms. Phoebus moved to confirm the above referenced appointments, seconded by Mr. Gilseman and carried unanimously.

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APPOINTMENTS BY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

LAND USE BOARD

Class III Township Committee Member 1 year term (2007)

Mayor Walsh moved to nominate Ms. Phoebus to fill this position, motion was seconded by Mr. Grotyohann and carried unanimously.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Regular Member MaryAnn Frodella 3 year term (2009)
Regular Member Barbara Niedzinski 3 year term (2009)

APPOINTMENTS BY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Regular Member Barbara Niedzinski 3 year term (2009)
Regular Member Helene Reczka 3 year term (2009)
Alternate No. 1 Robert Smith 1 year term (2007)
Alternate No. 2 Paul Linn 1 year term (2007)
Alternate No. 3 Ed Burgio 1 year term (2007)

Ms. Phoebus moved to approve the foregoing appointments, seconded by Mr. Gilsean and carried unanimously.

2007 LIAISON AND SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

TOM WALSH, MAYOR

Administrator
Clerk/Deputy Clerk
Finance Department
Police Department
Freeholder Board
Land Use - Class I

**FINANCE/CAPITAL PROJECTS
SUBCOMMITTEE**

Tom Walsh, Chairperson
Charles Grotyohann
Steven Padula
Jeffery Theriault

GAIL PHOEBUS

Fire Department
Recreation
Land Use – Class III
DPW

ORDINANCE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Charles Grotyohann
Gail Phoebus
Steven Padula

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2007 LIAISON AND SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
(CONTINUED)

CHARLES GROTYOHANN, DEPUTY MAYOR

Economic Development
Senior Citizens
Board of Health
Tax Assessor
Tax Collector

ALEX GILSENAN

Receptionist/Recycling Coordinator
Dog Licensing Official
SWAC
Municipal Court
Environmental Commission
Construction Department
Rescue Squad

NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Alex Gilsenan
Charles Grotyohann
Steven Padula

PERSONNEL POLICY/PROCEDURES
SUBCOMMITTEE

Open

DPW/ENGINEERING/BUILDING & GROUNDS

Tom Walsh
Gail Phoebus
Steven Padula

"208" WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Gail Phoebus
Alex Gilsenan

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Steven Padula

Mr. Gilsenan moved to approve the Liaison and Subcommittee appointments as aforementioned, seconded by Ms. Phoebus and carried unanimously.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Environmental Commission Chair de Vries asked if the Liaison List will be available as in the past. Mayor Walsh stated that as soon as the Clerk returns, she will have copies placed on the table for the public.

Resident Diane Gillespie began by apologizing to Mr. Webster because he asked her not to speak at this meeting with regard to his resignation, but she stated she can not remain silent. She stated she has supported all of the Committee's candidates and worked on some of the campaigns. She does not understand why adults, whom the residents supported and elected, can not work together for the good of the township. She reminded everyone that they all sit on the Township Committee because the residents of Andover Township voted for them to bring about change and not to become politicians. She added that she did not expect to witness behavior that we all have abhorred from past committees. She asked that in the future, any committee person has an issue with another committee person, I expect these individuals to talk it out, shake hands and come back and do your job for the township.

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: (CONTINUED) Resident Grace Massaro of Current Drive presented documentation from the Farm Bureau whereby the State is considering a Farmland Assessment Rollback. There are three congressional amendments which will change the rollback procedure anywhere from seven to nine years. She asked if the governing body would send a letter to State in opposition of this legislation. Mayor Walsh asked that she give Attorney Semrau the documents she has for his review. Mayor Walsh then stated following attorney review this issue can then be discussed for consideration of further action.

Resident Stan Christodlous spoke and in reference to Ms. Gillespie's statements made earlier and in all due respect, he stated he knows that Mr. Webster would be very upset when he learns about what said tonight. He added that Mr. Webster called him tonight and told him, he wanted to make it clear that if anyone said anything about his resignation, he wanted everyone to know that it was for personal reasons. He also stated that Mr. Webster wanted no hard feelings between board members and citizens.

Resident Fred Gillespie commented on Mr. Webster's decision to resign from the Township Committee. He stated that he believes that Mr. Webster absence from the Land Use Board and resignation from the Township Committee is the result in part of some accurate information, some partial information, some rumors and some half-truths. He applauded Mr. Webster for his hard work and dedication to Andover Township. He did considerable research and was not afraid to challenge anyone.

In final comment, he stated that the township committee could fight the battle and pay now or not fight and pay later.

Tony Massaro stated to the governing body, that he is not aware what the comments mentioned tonight are about but he wished to congratulate all of the members for being a very fair group of individuals.

Resident Laura Gilsean stated each member of the governing body ran on a platform of stabilizing taxes and her taxes have increased. She asked if this is still a priority to each of the members. Mayor Walsh started with Mr. Gilsean.

Mr. Gilsean stated the key and number priority for him in order to stabilize property taxes is to control residential development which is taxing our school system.

Mr. Grotyohann stated that we need to reduce spending and costs. If we increase our spending to fend off litigation and development at this time, the tax rate is increasing again this year. He asked if that happened would she be here next year saying that there were tax increases. Ms. Gilsean asked Mr. Grotyohann is it more expensive to pay for litigation now or to pay for the increased demand on our schools created by development. Mr. Grotyohann commented that Ms. Gilsean made a good point but at this time Andover Township does not have a slew of applications for development we need to be concerned with. He referenced newspaper articles where applications are currently being withdrawn in municipalities, Hovnanian pulled out of Andover Township, one withdrew their application in Franklin.

Ms. Phoebus stated she has been a resident since 1957 and got involved because to be honest, there is no way she can retire in this State. Something needs to be done in the State of New Jersey regarding property taxes. She stated she is in favor of controlling property taxes because if we don't, she can not afford to live or do business in New Jersey. The hardest part is the school taxes and Trenton controls the largest portion and the municipality can do very little. She agreed that if we bring more people into town and flood the school system that will create higher taxes. We do have to do some development that are good ratables and will not affect the school system. We need to manage, control and watch how things are developed. The bottom line needs to be watched closely and controlled.

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: (CONTINUED) Mayor Walsh agreed but added that we can not pin hole it as just development. There has to be proper development, we need to look for ratables in proper places, shared services and streamline government. Mayor Walsh stated that we just found \$80,000.00 in the road department budget because of possible shared services with Sussex County in using their salt shed. We've been in shared services with Andover Borough for five years but because of the past administration, we never received any tax benefit for this service. Mayor Walsh commented that the largest part of the tax bill is the school tax but the majority of the residents come to township committee meetings and no one attends Board of Education meetings where the bulk of the dollar is being spent. He added that increases are due to poor planning in the past, but it is everything not one thing. We need to keep our senior citizens in their homes in our town. If they sell and they will sell to families with four and five children, it will impact our tax base and that is not a result of development. He added that this is about the whole of the township, not one issue. The Township Administrator has been asked to streamline government in order to control tax increases. He stated that everyone will see a definite change this year.

Ms. Gilsean then asked Mayor Walsh for examples of what he has done in his two years in office. Mayor Walsh stated what he just mentioned is what he and the Township Committee has done. He referenced the Wawa application approval. Benefits will be reaped in the coming years, not immediately. He also mentioned paying for past mistakes.

Stan Christodlous asked Mr. Grotyohann if he meant that because there are no current applications, we do not need to plan for further applications. Mr. Grotyohann replied no. At this time there is no rush at this time. He suggested waiting for the Master Plan revisions. Mr. Christodlous stated that he believes ordinances can be adopted at this time based on the existing Master Plan and to not do that would be criminal. He added that proper ordinances can protect the township.

Mr. Massaro suggested proper planning and taking the burden away from the elderly. He stated that the school budget passes every year. He thought that once a resident reaches a certain age and no longer has children in the school system, a tax benefit could be afforded to that property owner.

Hearing nothing further from the public, Mayor Walsh closed the public portion.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: JANUARY 22, 2007 AT 6:30 P.M., EXECUTIVE SESSION
REGULAR MEETING 7:30 P.M.**

ADJOURNMENT No further business appearing before the Township Committee at this time, Ms. Phoebus moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 P.M., seconded by Mr. Gilsean and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Walsh, Mayor

**Jackie Huelbig, Assistant
Municipal Clerk**