

**HARDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021**  
**IN-PERSON / GOTOMEETING**  
**EXECUTIVE SESSION at 6:30 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA at 7:30 PM**  
**Kirby Hall, Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, New Jersey**  
**Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/878758869>  
You can also dial in using your phone.  
(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)  
**United States: +1 (646) 749-3122**  
- One-touch: tel:+16467493122,,878758869#  
**Access Code: 878-758-869**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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**CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Mayor Jones**

*Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.*

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**ADEQUATE NOTICE** of this June 14, 2021 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was sent to the Observer Tribune on January 4, 2021 and published in the Observer Tribune on January 7, 2021.

*Mayor Jones announced adequate notice of the June 14, 2021 meeting of the Harding Township Committee was published in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.*

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**ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk**

Ms. Chipperson, Ms. DiTosto, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

*Mayor Jones asked for a roll call. Mrs. Sharp called the roll and all members of the Township Committee were present in-person.*

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**RESOLUTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Mayor Jones asked for a motion to recess into executive session. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member Platt, seconded by Township Committee Member DiTosto, and with a roll call vote of all ayes, none opposed, the meeting recessed at 6:41 pm.*

**Resolution TC 21-119– Resolution to Recess into Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Harding Township Committee that it shall adjourn into executive session to discuss the following subject matter(s) without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 10:4-12b; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the matter(s) discussed will be made known to the public at such time as appropriate action is taken on said matter(s), and when disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Township of Harding provided such disclosures will not violate Federal, State or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney-client privilege. The Township Committee will return to public session after this Executive Session.

**Contracts:**

1. **Property Acquisitions – M. Roselli**
2. **Joint Court – Mayor Jones**

**Personnel:**

1. **DPW Hire – T. Toribio**
2. **Assistant Administrator Hire – R. Falzarano**

**Vote on Resolution:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	1 <sup>st</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION – Mayor Jones**

*Mayor Jones asked for a motion to reconvene into Public Session. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member DiTosto, seconded by Township Committee Member Yates and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the Township Committee meeting reconvened into public session at 7:44 pm.*

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**ROLL CALL – Municipal Clerk**

Ms. Chipperson, Ms. DiTosto, Mr. Platt, Mr. Yates, Mr. Jones

*Mayor Jones asked for a roll call. Mrs. Sharp called the roll and all members of the Township Committee were present in-person. There were seven members of the public in-person and seven members of the public on GoToMeeting.*

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**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Jones**

*Mayor Jones led members of the Township Committee and members of the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

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**ADEQUATE NOTICE** of this meeting of the Harding Township Committee was given as follows: Notice was sent to the *DAILY RECORD* and the *OBSERVER TRIBUNE* on January 4, 2021, and published in the *OBSERVER TRIBUNE* on January 7, 2021; Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Township Municipal Building on Blue Mill Road in Harding, NJ on January 7, 2021, and Notice was filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 7, 2021.

*Mayor Jones announced adequate notice of the June 14, 2021 Township Committee meeting was published in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.*

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**RESOLUTION TC 21-120 – RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

N 6-14-2021

**Mayor Jones** asked Township Committee Member Chipperson to proceed with Resolution TC 21-120 listed on the Non-Consent agenda.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following meetings are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: **May 10, 2021**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that the minutes from the following Executive Session meeting(s) are approved as prepared and shall be filed as a permanent record in the Municipal Clerk's office: **May 10, 2021**

**Mayor Jones** asked for a motion to accept the Township Committee meeting minutes.

*Township Committee Member Chipperson made a motion to accept the May 10, 2021 Township Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Township Committee Member Yates.*

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

**Vote on Resolution:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	1 <sup>st</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESOLUTIONS – (NON-CONSENT – REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION):**

*Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney commented that the second whereas sentence should read "have been" instead of "will be". Mrs. Sharp will amend the resolution.*

**RESOLUTION TC 21-121 – 2021 Budget to Be Read by Title Only at the Public Hearing**

**Mayor Jones** asked **Township Committee Member Yates** to proceed with Resolution TC 21-121 listed on the Non-Consent agenda. *Township Committee Member Yates proceeded to read Resolution TC 21-121 as follows:*

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 provides that the budget be read by title only at the time of public hearing if a resolution is passed by not less than a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the date of hearing a complete copy of the approved budget as advertised has been posted in the Municipal Building, local public library, and copies have been made available by the Municipal Clerk to persons requesting them; and

**WHEREAS**, these conditions have been met.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that the budget shall be read by title only.

**NON-CONSENT AGENDA VOTE:**

*Township Committee Member Yates made a motion to approve the resolution placed on this evening's Non-Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Platt.*

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

**Vote on Resolution:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 <sup>st</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**RESOLUTIONS – (NON-CONSENT – REQUIRING SEPARATE ACTION):**

**RESOLUTION TC 21-122 – PUBLIC HEARING & ADOPTION OF BUDGET – MUNICIPAL BUDGET NOTICE FISCAL YEAR 2021**

**Mayor Jones** asked Township Committee Member Yates to proceed with Resolution TC 21-122 listed on the Non-Consent agenda. *Township Committee Member Yates proceeded with Resolution TC 21-122.*

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee introduced and approved the 2021 Municipal Budget on April 12, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the approved introduction of the budget was advertised as required by law on May 13, 2021 in the May 13, 2021 edition of the Observer Tribune with notice of the public hearing to be held on June 14, 2021.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the municipal budget for the year 2021:

Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	2021	2020
1. Surplus	\$ 2,400,000.00	\$ 2,100,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 1,365,918.24	\$ 1,539,991.28
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
4. a.) Local Tax for Muncipal Purposes	\$ 5,934,749.00	\$ 5,835,587.00
b.) Additon to Local School District Tax	\$ -	\$ -
c.) Minimum Library Tax	\$ -	\$ -
Tot Amt to be Rsd by Taxes for Sup of Muni Bnd	\$ 5,934,749.00	\$ 5,835,587.00
<b>Total General Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 9,790,667.24</b>	<b>\$ 9,565,578.28</b>
Summary of Appropriations	2021 Budget	Final 2020 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries and Wages	\$ 3,529,700.00	\$ 3,417,600.00

Other Expenses	\$ 3,528,160.24	\$ 3,506,137.28
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	\$ 854,300.00	\$ 758,500.00
3. Capital Improvements	\$ 587,100.00	\$ 585,000.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)	\$ 372,700.00	\$ 383,600.00
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	\$ 918,707.00	\$ 914,741.00
<b>Total General Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 9,790,667.24</b>	<b>\$ 9,565,578.28</b>

<b>2021 Dedicated Sewer Utility</b>		
<b>Summary of Revenues</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	
	2021	2020
1. Surplus	\$ 49,000.00	\$ 39,000.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
3. Deficit (General Budget)	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 249,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 239,000.00</b>
<b>Summary of Appropriations</b>	2021 Budget	Final 2020 Budget
1. Operation Expenses: Salaries and Wages	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 202,000.00	\$ 192,000.00
2. Capital Improvements	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
3. Debt Service	\$ -	\$ -
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
5. Surplus (General Budget)	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 249,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 239,000.00</b>

<b>Balance of Outstanding Debt</b>			
	<b>General</b>	<b>Sewer Utility</b>	
Interest	\$ 747,025.00	\$ -	
Principal	\$ 3,750,000.00	\$ -	
Outstanding Balance	\$ 4,497,025.00	\$ -	

<b>Personnel</b>		
	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>
Total Number of Full Time Persons Budgeted	32	31
Total Number of Part Time Persons Budgeted	15	16

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the budget set forth for 2021 is hereby adopted.

**NON-CONSENT AGENDA VOTE:**

**Mayor Jones:** The meeting is now open for public hearing on Resolution TC 21-122 and any member of the public may be heard. *Mayor Jones opened the meeting at 7:47 pm to members of the public and announced any member of the public who wishes to be heard can unmute themselves, state their name, address and make their comment.*

**Mayor Jones:** *With no members of the public wishing to be heard, Mayor Jones closes the public hearing at 7:48 pm.*

**Mayor Jones** asked **Township Committee Member Yates** to proceed with Resolution TC 21-122 listed on the Non-Consent agenda.

*Township Committee Member Yates made a motion to approve the resolution placed on this evening's Non-Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Platt.*

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

**Vote on Resolution:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 <sup>st</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE – Mayor Jones**

*Township Committee Member Chipperson announced that any resident can make their selection on the Logo Contest by 12 noon on June 30, 2021. The form is located on the Township website. An explanation of advertising space will be placed on the website or by contacting; Rita Chipperson, Nicole Lacz, or Tracey Walters.*

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**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT TIME LIMIT**

Hearing of citizens during the Public Comment section of the Agenda is an opportunity for any member of the public to be heard about issues which are/are not topics scheduled for Public Hearing tonight. To help facilitate an orderly meeting, and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to a reasonable length of time.

*Mayor Jones opened the meeting for public comment at 7:50 pm and announced if any member of the public would like to be heard to unmute themselves, state your name and address and make your comment. With no members of the public wishing to be heard, Mayor Jones closed the public comment at 7:51 pm.*

*Mayor Jones asked Mr. Wepler to come up and make his public comment at 9:36 pm due to Mr. Wepler was called out earlier on a First Aid call.*

*Larry Wepler, First Aid Squad – commented that Harding Township considers itself a volunteer community. The New Vernon First Aid Squad is a volunteer organization. Mr. Wepler commented that the First Aid Squad just recently held an open house and that he should go to the Township meetings to get the word out. Mr.*

*Weppler explained that we are trying to get the word out that we need volunteers; EMT's and drivers. Mr. Weppler explained we need a group of reserves that the First Aid Squad can call on. The First Aid Squad was here at the Township Committee meeting recently for saving someone's life during a CPR call. It is one of the most rewarding things that any EMT or member of that squad can do is to come upon a scene and find someone that is not breathing. CPR is not conducted unless a person is not breathing. To resuscitate that person and bring that person back is one of the most rewarding things that anyone can do. Mr. Weppler encourages people to come into the First Aid Squad, meet with them, volunteer, you can even start out by first becoming a driver. Mr. Weppler encourages Harding Township residents to consider joining the New Vernon Volunteer First Aid Squad. Most of our calls are not blood, the calls are getting residents to the hospital. Any resident can contact Mr. Weppler at [joinus@nvvfd.org](mailto:joinus@nvvfd.org). Our residents are our family and our members are our second family, it would be helpful if we there were more volunteers. Mayor Jones thanked Mr. Weppler and thanked him for his service.*

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## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **1. Reval Process – A. DiRado / F. Semrau**

*Mr. Anthony DiRado, Tax Assessor, and Mr. Fred Semrau, Tax Attorney provided a presentation to the Township Committee and members of the public and members on GoToMeeting regarding the 2020 Reassessment. A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes.*

*Mr. DiRado's last slide was "Where Do We Go From Here", the Township could wait till the next ordered re-evaluation or commence an annual reassessment. Mr. DiRado mentioned that the misconception is every ten years which is an average when the Division gets around to having towns conduct re-evaluations. This is not so, it is totally data driven. If the ratio goes below 85%, if our deviation grossly exceed 15%, the Township may do this again.*

*Mr. DiRado explained what an annual reassessment is. It would encompass re-inspection of every property in the town which could be conducted over a five (5) year period (1/5 of the town each year for five years and then complete it over again). This would maintain close to a 100% ratio. It would try to re-establish a fair equal and equitable distribution of tax base conducted on an annual basis. Mr. DiRado commented that he has conducted an annual reassessment in Bridgewater since 2004. There are 16,000 line items which is about 5,000 residential for Bridgewater a year. It costs Bridgewater about \$65,000 a year for an outside company to conduct the annual inspections. The Township would spend almost the same dollar amount but would eliminate the use of conducting the re-evaluation every ten years. The appeal levels would be kept at a dramatically low level. Harding Township's expense would be different as the Township has about 2,000 line items. A discussion ensued.*

*Township Committee Member DiTosto – commented how you take into consideration that 2020/2021 has been an extraordinary year where people were fleeing out of New York to suburban areas. A discussion ensued. Mr. DiRado commented that if the values continue to rise, the ratios will continue to fall. If the blip goes away, the ratio will rise back up as sale prices begin to fall.*

*Mr. DiRado commented that the Township would not see a dramatic shift that quickly if an annual reassessment is conducted. Mr. DiRado is looking at reestablishing the base so everyone is paying their fair share. Township Committee Member Platt asked if ASI would be hired again. Mr. DiRado explained that he would do the valuation work and ASI's purpose would be to physically conduct the inspections. Township Committee Member Yates commented that the goal is to keep assessments close*

*to market value so to be fair to the tax payers. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding communication, tax appeals, rolling assessments, market values and fair share.*

**Mayor Jones** opened the meeting to any member of the public at 8:41 pm who may have a comment. Mrs. Sharp asked that any member of the public to please unmute yourself, state your name, address and make your comment.

*Elaine McHale, resident – commented that the predicate of the conversation this evening is that the re-evaluation did not have a jolt with respect to Harding Township residents. Mrs. McHale commented that this is not further than the truth with respect to small lot homes. Mrs. McHale provided two examples; 1) on Jenks Road a resident had a 27% increase and 2) on Millbrook Road, a resident had close to a 26% increase. Mrs. McHale commented she spoke to many residents over the last year and stated this was the single most raised issue to her. Mrs. McHale has two questions to the ASI Company. 1) How were the homes clustered in the neighborhood? 2) What was the source of that work?*

*Mr. DiRado, Tax Assessor – commented that it was done through the Township's tax maps and through the Township Zoning maps. This is how the neighborhoods were established. Mr. DiRado commented that individuals that saw 20 to 30% increase in the amount of tax they pay, you have to take into consideration over a one year period so in 2019 their taxes were 6,000 and in 2020 their taxes were 8,000. The 6,000 tax was based on an assessment that was established back in 2002. This is a 17 year gap in value. The swing was all in one year but the accumulation is that their assessment value in 2019 were left over ruminants from 2002. The big difference is that in 2019, the Township was conducting values for the tax year 2020. Mrs. McHale commented that some residents have a view that your notion is wrong and believes it should have been communicated better. Mrs. McHale commented that the cluster at the Lake made sense, but the cluster of homes on Millbrook Road do not make sense. Mrs. McHale commented that another problem was there was a per site minimum fee and asked how this fee was applied.*

*Mr. DiRado started with land valuation and land valuation by extraction. Mr. DiRado stated never take your eyes off the fact he has to have your total assessment value reflect the market value of your home. As we conduct the analysis of the market, we have to establish certain neighborhoods and those neighborhoods are done geographically and there are sales within those geographic neighborhoods. Starting at the top of the list which is market value, then we extrapolate a land value by trying to establish a cost value to the improvement on the property or the building, then extract the land value. As we must be fair, equal, and equitable within that neighborhood, a site value is applied and a cost per acreage value. Once the math is conducted, we then come to an established grid to establish a land value within a specific neighborhood, then the improvement value is placed on top and then we stop, look at what those two add up to be (do they still add up to the market value of the home). If you are in the wrong neighborhood, then theoretically your overall assessment value should be wrong. The beauty of the system, you can challenge your assessment value but it has to pertain to market. Mr. DiRado explained you cannot segregate out the land and the building, you must look at the total. You cannot sell your house and keep your land and you cannot sell the land and keep you house, it has to be conducted as a packaged deal. A further discussion ensued regarding lack of information, ASI, the number of homes sold in different communities, market and land values.*

*Township Committee Member DiTosto – commented why you cannot challenge the neighborhood you reside in. Mr. DiRado explained you can only challenge your single individual assessment value. Mrs. DiTosto commented that your assessment value is relative to your neighborhood. Mr. DiRado commented that you cannot use someone else's assessment value to determine your own. Mrs. DiTosto commented that the neighborhood that you are in does not have anything to do with the value of your home and property. Mr. DiRado explained that the sales that occur in your neighborhood do. A further*

*discussion ensued regarding the clustering of neighborhoods and the tax maps. Mayor Jones commented that there are four companies in the State of New Jersey that are licensed to conduct this work. This is the process that the Division of Taxation in Trenton uses. The data is taken from the tax map and the Appraisal Company uses that information to come up with their algorithm which is approved by the Division of Taxation. Mr. Semrau, Tax Attorney commented that he understands Mrs. McHale has concerns regarding specific properties but what is very important, when you look at this process, we are a year later into the process and Mr. DiRado, in addition, went into the sales for the first half of 2021, and what the data is telling the Township is that the accuracy is excellent. The Township is coming in overall within 3 percent of those sales numbers. The integrity of the process is validated by this.*

*Let the record show that Mr. DiRado and Mr. Semrau left the meeting at 9:10 pm.*

## **2. Library Story Trail Request – A. Maxwell**

*Alison Maxwell, Director of the Kemmerer Library provided a presentation to the Township Committee and members of the public regarding a Library Story Trail. A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes.*

*Mayor Jones – commented regarding the initial funding. Ms. Maxwell commented the funding would come from the Library.*

*Township Committee Member DiTosto – commented would there be ongoing funding that would be requested from the Town. Ms. Maxwell commented that she does not believe there would be a great deal of funding. It would be maintaining the structures and does not believe it would be a very large cost. Mayor Jones commented that it would be DPW time. Mrs. DiTosto commented if a structure was to get broken and requires repairs or replacement, would the Library be bearing these costs. Ms. Maxwell commented yes but cannot provide a guarantee.*

*Township Committee Member Platt – commented the concept is good but questioned the appropriateness of this Story Trail being used on a path that was put in to have people get away from it all. People are there to clear their minds, exercise, walk with their children, walk their dogs, and they are constantly being bombarded with information at them. Can this be done in a more high tech means; such as a QR code that they scan on their phone, without the physicality of a message board that would clutter the path?*

*Township Committee Member Yates – commented it is a nice idea. Mayor Jones commented the Township Committee will take it under advisement.*

*Township Committee Member Chipperson commented she agrees with Mr. Platt's point so we would need to be careful what we choose to put up there. It would need to blend more with nature. A discussion on the type of boards ensued.*

*Mr. Falazarano, Township Administrator – commented what the timeline would be for this. Ms. Maxwell commented the spring of 2022. Mr. Falzarano explained that the next step is for the Township Committee to take this under advisement and decide if they want to proceed with this, do they want to limit the number of stations, the size of the display boards, etc. Mr. Falzarano asked Ms. Maxwell to provide dimension sizes of the boards that would go around the trail. Ms. Maxwell commented she does not have anything specific at this time. Mr. Platt commented that if this story trail is not kept up, it would need to be taken down.*

### **3. Sand Spring Lane/Pleasantville Road Speed Limit – Mayor Jones**

*Mayor Jones commented that Chief Heller could not attend the meeting this evening but mentioned that Chief Heller received a complaint regarding the speed on Sand Spring Lane. Sand Spring Lane does not have any speed limit signs and by law it defaults to a rural road speed of 35 mph because the Township did not declare a speed. There have been complaints about the speed on Sand Spring Lane, especially since Sand Spring Road is now 25 mph. Chief Heller's recommendation is posting the speed as 25 mph because the street is very narrow. Mr. Falzarano explained the street does not conform to frontage of properties for a 25 mph speed zone statute. Therefore, a speed survey and traffic analysis would be necessary. A discussion ensued. Mr. Roselli commented that a justification is necessary to change the speed and surveys and traffic analysis would be required.*

*Mayor Jones -- commented that there has been complaints about speed on Pleasantville Road and some residents approached Mayor Jones to see if there could be a town wide speed. Mr. Roselli commented that speed surveys and traffic analyses would need to be conducted. A discussion ensued.*

*Township Committee Member Platt -- commented 30 mph is where we should start and 25 mph is for extraordinary circumstances for going through a very heavy residential zone. Mr. Platt commented that making Sand Spring Road all 25 mph was a mistake. Mayor Jones commented that there is a process to do this and it is more involved. Township Committee Member DiTosto commented she is with Mr. Platt. Mrs. DiTosto has received complaints from residents with regard to the 25 mph on Sand Spring Road.*

### **4. Glen Alpin Update – Mayor Jones**

*Mayor Jones commented that he is pleased to announce that we are going before the NJ Statehouse Commission on June 23, 2021. Mayor Jones commented that the Morris County Historic Preservation has blessed this transaction and passed a resolution granting the 30 year easement would be terminated for a permanent easement which goes to the Morris County Commissioners for their decision at their August 2021 agenda. There is a July 6, 2021 special meeting at 9 am at the Municipal Building to effectuate the policies around the local building and land use law.*

### **5. COVID-19 Policy – R. Falzarano**

**Mr. Falzarano, Township Administrator** -- commented a draft memorandum was sent to the Township Committee regarding the Governor's Executive Order #240 rescinding a number of COVID-19 restrictions. The Township has a policy which addresses infectious disease. The policy is in four phases and the Municipal Building would enter into Phase III of the policy. Mr. Falzarano explained that Governor Murphy did not rescind the Executive Order officially. Mr. Falzarano explained a limited Phase III opening would be as follows, if the Township Committee is in agreement:

- *All public meetings have to be uniform; either in person or in-person and hybrid*
- *Public Access to the Municipal Building. The Municipal Building has been open to the public since August 2020 and the current access to the building would remain in place.*
- *Masks will now be optional.*

*Mr. Falzarano asked what the Township Committee Members felt with regards to public meetings. Township Committee Member Yates, Platt, Jones, Chipperson, and DiTosto were all in agreement for public meetings for all Boards, Commissions, and Committees to return in person as of July 1, 2021. Mr. Falzarano commented that all Boards, Commissions, and Committees will be notified. Mr. Falzarano mentioned that the Township started sanitizing the building in January of 2020 and this practice will remain. The Municipal Building and employees have done very*

*well during the pandemic. The Township Committee was in consensus of the municipal building moving into a limited Phase III opening.*

## **6. Ordinances – M. Roselli**

*Mr. Roselli, Township Attorney explained that a series of ordinances were received by the Planning Board. Mr. Roselli explained that the Township Committee receives these ordinances in a vacuum, they come to the Governing Body and come to Mr. Roselli who is not aware of what the genius is for making suggested revisions. Mr. Roselli commented that the Governing Body of the Township passes ordinances. The Zoning Board conducts an annual report which makes suggestions and recommendations. Mr. Roselli suggested that a memorandum come from the Planning Board to the Township Committee with the suggested revisions, reasons, and the goal that the Planning Board is trying to achieve with regard to their changes to any Land Use ordinance. The Township Committee will review the suggested changes and if in agreement, the Township Attorney will amended or draft the ordinance.*

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## **ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**Mayor Jones** asked Township Committee Member Yates to read Ordinance TC #07-2021.

**Township Committee Member Yates** reads Ordinance TC #07-2021 by title as follows

**ORDINANCE #07-2021 – CAPITAL ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND ACQUISITIONS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP AND APPROPRIATING THEREFORE THE SUM OF \$557,100**

Which said Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular Township Committee Meeting held on April 12, 2021.

**Mayor Jones** asks the Municipal Clerk to give a summary of the legal notice.

*Mrs. Sharp, Municipal Clerk explained that a legal notice was sent for publication on April 12, 2021 to the Observer Tribune and on May 10, 2021 indicating that Ordinance #07-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the April 12, 2021 meeting and indicated that the second reading and public hearing were to be held on June 14, 2021 at 7:30 pm on or at any time thereafter for consideration of final adoption. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the general public, posted on the Township website, and posted in accordance with the law.*

**Mayor Jones** opened the meeting at 10:15 pm for public hearing on the Ordinance and any member of the public may be heard.

*With no members of the public wishing to be heard, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing at 10:15 pm.*

**Township Committee Member Yates** offered Ordinance #07-2021 and moved its adoption. Township Committee Member Platt seconded the motion.

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

**Vote on Adoption:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 <sup>st</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**Mayor Jones** asked Township Committee Member Yates to read Ordinance TC #10-2021.

**Township Committee Member Yates** reads Ordinance TC #10-2021 by title as follows

**ORDINANCE #10-2021– “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY CLASS OF RECREATIONAL OR MEDICAL CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN ITS GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES, AMENDING AND READOPTION 225-116 L (3) AND RESCINDING AND REPLACING 225-116.1 B OF THE CODE OF HARDING TOWNSHIP”**

Which said Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular Township Committee Meeting held on May 10, 2021.

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk to give a summary of the legal notice.

*Mrs. Sharp, Municipal Clerk explained a legal notice was sent for publication on May 10, 2021 to the Observer Tribune indicating that Ordinance #10-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the May 10, 2021 meeting and indicated that the second reading and public hearing were to be held on June 14, 2021 at 7:30 pm on or at any time thereafter for consideration of final adoption. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the general public, posted on the Township website, and posted in accordance with the law.*

*Mayor Jones opened the meeting at 10:19 pm for public hearing on the Ordinance and any member of the public may be heard.*

*With no members of the public wishing to be heard, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing at 10:19 pm.*

**Township Committee Member Yates** offered Ordinance #10-2021 and moved its adoption. Township Committee Member Platt seconded the motion. Township Committee Member DiTosto seconded the motion.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that this Ordinance was read by title on second reading, after the public hearing at this meeting, be adopted and finally passed.

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

**Vote on Adoption:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	2 <sup>nd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**Mayor Jones** asked Township Committee Member Yates to read Ordinance #11-2021.

**Township Committee Member Yates reads** Ordinance TC #11-2021 by title as follows

**ORDINANCE #11-2021– “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING AMENDING PART II, CHAPTER 285, 225-18 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDING ENTITLED “PEACE AND ORDER” TO ADDRESS CHANGES IN STATE LAW PERTAINING TO SALE OR USE OF MARIJUANA AND/OR PARAPHERNALIA ON PUBLIC PROPERTY, PARKS, AND/OR SCHOOLS”**

Which said Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular Township Committee Meeting held on May 10, 2021.

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk to give a summary of the legal notice.

*Mrs. Sharp, Municipal Clerk explained that a legal notice was sent for publication on May 10, 2021 to the Observer Tribune indicating that Ordinance #11-2021 was introduced and passed on first reading at the May 10, 2021 meeting and indicated that the second reading and public hearing were to be held on June 14, 2021 at 7:30 pm on or at any time thereafter for consideration of final adoption. Copies of this Ordinance were made available to the general public, posted on the Township website, and posted in accordance with the law.*

*Mayor Jones opened the meeting at 10:21 pm for public hearing on the Ordinance and any member of the public may be heard.*

*With no members of the public wishing to be heard, Mayor Jones closed the public hearing at 10:21 pm.*

**Township Committee Member Yates** offered Ordinance #11-2021 and moved its adoption.  
**Township Committee Member DiTosto** seconded the motion.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that this Ordinance was read by title on second reading, after the public hearing at this meeting, be adopted and finally passed.

**Mayor Jones** asks the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call:

**Vote on Adoption:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	2 <sup>nd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**ADD-ON RESOLUTIONS: NONE**

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**RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND VOTE:  
NONE**

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**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items are considered to be routine by the Harding Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Township Committee Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

**RESOLUTIONS TC 21-123 THROUGH RESOLUTION TC 21-130 HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE  
CONSENT AGENDA**

**CONSENT AGENDA VOTE:**

**Mayor Jones** asked **Committee Member DiTosto** to proceed with the Resolutions listed on the Consent agenda. Resolutions TC 21-123 through TC 21-130.

*Township Committee Member DiTosto made a motion to approve the resolutions placed on this evening's Consent Agenda by consent of the Township Committee, seconded by Township Committee Member Yates. Let the record show that Township Committee Member Chipperson abstained from Resolution 21-126 – Bill List vendor Performance Trailers.*

**Mayor Jones** asked the Municipal Clerk for a Roll Call: *Mrs. Sharp called the roll as follows:*

**Vote on Resolution:**

	MOTION	FOR APPROVAL	AGAINST APPROVAL	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ms. Chipperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. DiTosto	1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Platt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Yates	2 <sup>nd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### APPOINTMENTS:

##### **Resolution TC 21-123 – Appointment of Commissioner to the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that Andrew Fiore is hereby appointed as the Township of Harding Commissioner to the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Robert Falzarano is hereby appointed as the Township of Harding's Alternate Commissioner to the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund.

##### **Resolution TC 21-124 -- Resolution Designating Andrew Fiore as the Public Agency Compliance Officer**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.J.A.C 17:27-3.2 each public agency shall designate an individual to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.); and

**WHEREAS**, the P.A.C.O. is responsible for ensuring that municipal contracts comply with the policy of the State of New Jersey to promote equal opportunity and affirmative action with regard to public contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the Township of Harding to promote and enforce all rules and regulations regarding affirmative action in public purchasing; and

**WHEREAS**, a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Division of Purchase & Property, Contract Compliance Audit Unit, EEO Monitoring Program.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Harding Township Committee that Andrew Fiore, Assistant Finance Manager be appointed as the P.A.C.O. effective July 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021.

##### **Resolution TC 21-125 – Appointment of Qualified Purchasing Agent**

**WHEREAS**, there will exist a vacancy in the position of Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee has determined Andrew Fiore is qualified for the position; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee recommends Mr. Fiore be appointed as Qualified Purchasing Agent at an annual stipend of \$8,100.

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey that effective July 1, 2021, Andrew Fiore is hereby appointed as Qualified Purchasing Agent at an annual stipend of \$8,100 prorated for the balance of 2021, with employment subject to terms and conditions set forth in the letter of employment and the Township of Harding Policies Procedures Manual.

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**CONTRACTS: NONE**

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**FINANCE:**

*Let the record show that Township Committee Member Chipperson abstained from Resolution 21-126 – Bill List vendor Performance Trailers.*

**Resolution TC 21-126 – Bill List**

**WHEREAS**, vouchers for payment have been submitted to the Township Committee by various municipal departments.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding that all vouchers approved by the Finance Chairman be paid subject to the certification of the availability of funds by the Chief Financial Officer.

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**MISCELLANEOUS:**

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**Resolution TC 21-127 – Resolution to Support the Harding Land Trust Application for Green Acres Stewardship Funding for the Gatehouse Property**

**WHEREAS**, the Harding Land Trust will submit an application for Green Acres Stewardship Funding for the Gatehouse Environmental Enhancement Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Commission and the Harding Open Space Trust Committee approves of the Green Acres Stewardship to enhance the streetscape and meadow at the Gatehouse property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Harding Township Committee concurs with the Environmental Commission and the Harding Open Space Trust Committee that the Green Acres funding for stewardship will enhance the streetscape and meadow at the Gatehouse property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Green Acres Stewardship application is due June 30, 2021.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that we give our support for the Gatehouse project.

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**Resolution TC 21-128 – Liquor License Renewal for 2021-2022 Application Year**

**WHEREAS**, the applicants for Alcoholic Beverage Control License set forth below has been duly investigated; and

**WHEREAS**, the Harding Township Committee is satisfied that all the rules and regulations of the Alcoholic Beverage Law, Title 33, Chapter 1 of the Revised Statutes of New Jersey, 1937, as amended and supplemented, including P.L. 1970, Ch. 77, have been duly complied with.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the Harding Township Committee hereby agrees to issue to the following applicants, the following permanent license under the aforesaid State Statutes for the following annual fee, said license to commence *July 1, 2021*, and to expire at midnight on *June 30, 2022* upon clearance of the fee to the Harding Township Treasurer's Account.

**CLUB LICENSES:**

<b><u>Applicants:</u></b>	<b><u>ADDRESS:</u></b>	<b><u>FEE:</u></b>
New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department Club License No. 1413-31-004-001	22 Village Road New Vernon, NJ	\$63.00
Mt. Kemble Lake Country Club Club License No. 1413-31-003-001	3 Trails End Morristown, NJ	\$63.00

**PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE:**

<b><u>Applicant:</u></b>	<b><u>ADDRESS:</u></b>	<b><u>FEE:</u></b>
MMBBQ, LLC DBA Minuteman Smokehouse Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1413-33-001-010	990 Mt. Kemble Avenue Morristown, NJ	\$2,500.00

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the aforesaid license in the form approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage of the State of New Jersey to the aforesaid applicants.

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**Resolution TC 21-129 – Resolution to Authorize Sale of Surplus Property through GOVDEALS Online Auction Website**

**WHEREAS**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Township has surplus property acquired for the use of the Harding Township Police Department which are not needed for public use, or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey permits the sale of surplus property no longer needed for public use through online auction services, pursuant to the Local Unit Electronic Technology Pilot Program and Study Act, P.L. 2001, c.30; and

**WHEREAS**, GovDeals, an internet auction entity specializing in government surplus items, will list the items for auction on its website, [www.govdeals.com](http://www.govdeals.com) for 10 days at a cost of 7½% of the final (closing) sales price.

Successful bidders will receive a Buyer's Certificate by email from GovDeals. Payment in full shall be due not later than 5 business days from the time and date of the Buyer's Certificate. Payment shall be accepted in the form of U.S. Currency, Certified Cashier's Check, Money Order or Company Check (with Bank letter guaranteeing funds) and shall be remitted to the Township of Harding. Buyers will arrange all handling, loading and transportation of purchases within 10 business days from the time and date of the Buyer's Certificate. Purchases will be released only upon receipt of payment as specified.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 and auction the following surplus property online:

<b>ITENS</b>	<b>SERIAL NUMBERS</b>
• L3 Communications	23010001A2C30060(G)
• Mobile Vision	0112001
• L3 Communications	AN0105500046
• Mobile Vision	0112000
• L3 Communications	FB030129
• L3 Communications	FB030130
• L3 Communications	FB030129
• L3 Communications	FB030127
• Cassette Recorder	
• Mobile Vision	077525
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB030128
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB030134
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB030131
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB030127
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB030129
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB030132
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB123086
• L3 Communications (Screen)	FB123085
• Surge Protection	3B1112X04333
• Mitsubishi Computer	44167405NA
• Geneva	
• Surge Protection	4B1627P16962
• Dell Computer	
• Dell Computer	
• Impres Adaptive Charger	
• Impres Adaptive Charger	
• Impres Adaptive Charger	
• Mini Mobile Vision	FB030134
• Mini Mobile Vision	FB030131
• Mini Mobile Vision	FB030128
• Mini Mobile Vision	FB030129
• Mini Mobile Vision	FB030133
• Mini Mobile Vision	FB030130
• Mini Mobile Vision	CN5011300269

• Asus Pro Computer	H7LMQS080293
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030132
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030129
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030131
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030133
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030130
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030128
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030127
• Voice Link Plus (L3)	FB030134
• NEC Computer	4754255YA
• Safe Co (12 Part Compartment Desk)	9420CY
• Motorola Phone	
• Droid Phone	
• ASUS (Hard-Drive)	E7PDCG002JHU
• Cross Match ID 500	ID500-004451
• 6 microphone extensions w/blue plug	
• 4 microphone extensions w/black plug	
• Drager AlcoTest 6510	ARAB-0067
• Drager AlcoTest 6510	ARAB-0066
• Bravo 4101 Disc Publisher	2110601037
• HP Laptop (w/charger)	80045637971686
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	00144548803135
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	00182020406771
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	00045172314089
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	916G101011G52700099M000
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	916G101011G527000ACM000
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	00182029565824
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	00182021656403
• iX104C4 Dual Mode	00182021212548
• Desk Mount	
• Dell Keyboard	
• MTD Keyboard	854058
• Dell Keyboard	
• Battery Pack	J8NA10337
• FD Mavica Camera	
• Command Post Materials (black bag)	
• Avaya phones (28 of them) (4412D+)	
• Avaya phone DSS 4450	
• Avaya phone (4400)	

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**Resolution TC 21-130 – Resolution to Authorize the Revised Use of Facilities Policy & Procedures**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Attorney submitted revisions for the Township’s Use of Facilities Policy and Procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Harding has reviewed the revised Use of Facilities Policy and Procedures.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Township Committee of the Township of Harding, County of Morris, State of New Jersey hereby approves of the revised Township Use of Facilities Policy and Procedures.

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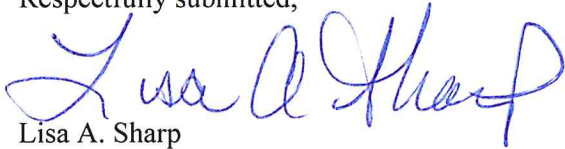
**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING -- NONE**

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**ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Jones**

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to complete the discussion on personnel matters. Upon a motion made by Township Committee Member DiTosto, seconded by Township Committee Member Yates, and with a vote of all ayes, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 10:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Sharp  
Municipal Clerk

# **2020 REASSESSMENT**

WHY, HOW, FINAL RESULTS

One year later....

Where do we go from here?

## **WHY**

The Division of Taxation monitors sales v. assessment each year.

Our assessment ratio (88.64%) coupled with our Coefficients of Deviation from the ratio (31.00) was not acceptable.

In 2017 Harding was ordered by the Morris County Tax Board to commence preparation for a reevaluation. Our last reevaluation was completed in 2002.

# **HOW**

Notification were sent prior to inspections.

Exterior and interior inspections began in 2019 on 2,072 line items.

ASI established a market analysis based upon recent sales.

The new values were established and sent to all property owners.

Informal hearings were performed prior to final book closure.

Final book 2/1/20.

## FINAL RESULT

2019 values (2002 revaluation)		2020 values after revaluation		Shift +/-
• Vacant land	41,272,100	• Vacant land	34,401,100	(.43%)
• Residential	1,672,978,600	• Residential	1,773,434,300	.29%
• Farm/Farmland	205,506,960	• Farm/Farmland	206,398,100	(.51%)
• Commercial	84,016,800	• Commercial	102,599,000	.65%
• Total	2,003,774,460	• Total	2,116,832,500	

## **ONE YEAR LATER.....**

- During the year of 2020 the Division of Taxation monitors sales and reestablishes an assessment ratio based upon a comparison of sales data to the new assessments.
- Our average ratio came in at 96.84% and our deviation of 14 was within the Division of Taxation's requirements. This indicates our assessments average 96.84% of the market sales.
- Appeals filed in 2020 totaled 43. The nearest (rural, higher priced homes, roughly same line items – 3,820) community comparison would Kinnelon. They had 196 appeals following their re-evaluation in 2017.
- Based upon the Division of Taxation's data. The process and resulting values are proven to be correct.

## **ONE YEAR LATER.....**

- I performed a further analysis, with a larger sales population (my analysis was based upon sales up to the end of March 2021).
- My results show homes that have sold for under 1 million produced an averaged ratio of 93.15%. Homes sold between 1 and 1.5 million - averaged a ratio of 98.38%. Homes that sold over 1.5 million and up - averaged a ratio of 94.39%.
- Two market areas that produced lower than expected ratios were AC14 (area surrounding Mt. Kemble Lake) and AC06 (Harding Green). AC14 has an average ratio of 82.38% and AC06 has an average ratio of 90.86%.

## **WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

- Wait till next ordered re-evaluation?
- Commence annual reassessment?

## **An Idea from Kemmerer Library for a ‘Story Trail’**

As part of Harding’s Centennial Celebrations in 2022, the Library would like to propose the creation of a ‘Story Trail’ along the footpath which loops around behind the tennis courts from the parking lot outside the Library.

A Story Trail combines literacy with physical activity and time in nature and can also be used to highlight information of interest, for example Harding’s centenary.

The Story Trail would consist of a number of ‘trail signs’ posted along the edge of the path:



The first sign would include information describing the trail, why it’s there and who sponsored it. The following posts would display the pages of story or picture book that could be read whilst following the signs along the path.

For the centennial, ‘story’ options could include the History of Harding Township (in collaboration with the Historical Society) or the history of the Library – or simply a children’s story. Then, going forward, the Library could replace the story on a regular basis, with stories selected for their relevance to the library, the trail and the surrounding nature.

Story Trails have been successful in other parts of the country in bringing a community together.

The background of the slide features a dark blue textured area on the left and a series of overlapping, semi-transparent green and yellow-green geometric shapes on the right, creating a modern, abstract design.

# Proposal for Harding Story Trail

Alison Maxwell  
Kemmerer Library

# What is a Story Trail?

- ▶ A fun, educational activity that places the pages from a children's book along a trail in a community, for families to enjoy
- ▶ It encourages members of a community to get outdoors and enjoy nature, to get exercise, and helps to develop literary skills in children

# Why have a Story Trail Here?

- ▶ The existing trail loop that begins in the parking area outside the Municipal Building is the **PERFECT** location
  - ▶ PERFECT length for all ages to enjoy without being challenging
  - ▶ PERFECT length to fit a children's story, in 10-12 'reading stations'
  - ▶ PERFECT level ground with no obstructions to erecting simple reading board
  - ▶ It **ADDS INTEREST** to this simple trail (**REASON** to visit)
  - ▶ Begins and ends at the **LIBRARY**

# More Than Just Children's Stories...

- ▶ Lends itself to a number of purposes
  - ▶ Celebrate Harding's Centennial, Harding history
  - ▶ Highlight Harding nature
  - ▶ Feature anything of interest!  
e.g. local event, notable author etc.

## Examples of 'Reading Stations'



An aerial photograph of Kirby Hall Park and its surroundings. The park features a large green lawn, a blue tennis court, and a paved walking path. A parking lot with several cars is located to the left of the park. A red brick building, identified as the Kemmerer Library-Harding, is situated near the parking lot. The area is surrounded by trees and fields.

Kemmerer  
Library-Harding...

Kirby  
Hall Park

# Trail Stations



## Additional Thoughts



- ▶ Low Cost to build - UV protective Perspex
- ▶ Low maintenance
- ▶ Support of DPW
- ▶ Library to manage quarterly rotation of 'stories'
- ▶ Optional 'add-ons' e.g. benches