

**GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 23, 2018
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CHEWS LANDING NEW JERSEY**

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Invocation: Pastor Bill Wilson

Statement: Mr. Mercado read a statement setting forth the time, date, and place of this meeting, that it was properly advertised, posted and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:	Mr. Hutchison	Mr. Carlamere, Solicitor
	Mr. Owens	Mr. Cardis, Business Administrator
	Mrs. Stubbs	Mrs. Power, Twp. Clerk, RMC
	Mrs. Winters	Mr. Lechner, Community Development
	Mr. Mignone	Chief Earle, Police
	Mrs. Trotto	
	Mr. Mercado	

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mr. Mercado opened the public portion.

Shaquille Lattie of Blackwood asked council if they are all going to vote yes on the budget?

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

RESOLUTIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA

R-18:04-101

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, in the County of Camden, that the following bills are approved by the Township Council in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 0-82-16 and certified by the Chief Financial Officer that the claims are proper obligation of the township, that adequate funds are available to honor these claims in the account indicated and the claim should be paid:

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 7,039,429.96

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Per attached computer read out of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 140,545.78

TRUST

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 46,186.02

DEVELOPERS ESCROW

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 13,443.25

MANUAL CHECKS

Per attached computer readout of the claims presented in the amount of \$ 5,765.30

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-102

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF FINANCE**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the following refunds be and are hereby authorized:

#5865-111006CSPF
1098 Johnson Road
Block 20901 Lot 2
Aqua New Jersey, Inc.
10 Black Forest Road
Hamilton, NJ 08691
Balance from unexpended escrow: \$1,003.69

#5951-111010CM
Lower Landing Road
Block 2301 Lot 3
Block 2303 Lot 1 & 2
Michael Piarulli
703 Hampton Road
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
Balance from unexpended escrow: \$ 20.74

#6768-1210CCUSPW
700 S. Black Horse Pike
Block 12402 Lot 9
Mario Sapanara
124 Whitman Drive
Turnersville, NJ 08012
Balance from unexpended escrow: \$195.00

#6971-122022C
501 Good Intent Road
Block 10303 Lot 30
Fred Feucht
501 Good Intent Road
Balance from unexpended escrow: \$100.00

#6990-121025M
2273 Erial-New Brooklyn Road
Block 13901 Lots 70 & 71
Anthony Alberto
139 Hurffville Grenlock Road
Sewell, NJ 08080
Balance from unexpended escrow: \$149.56

#7284-122051CDSPW
9 Seventh Avenue
Block 1207 Lot 10
Robert Belins
1724 Maple Avenue
Haddon Heights, NJ 08035
Balance from unexpended escrow: \$496.48

#7522-122057CD
1 Highwoods Avenue
Block 17907 Lot 53
Salvatore Marchi
1 Highwoods Avenue
Sickelville, NJ 08081

Balance from unexpended escrow: \$319.05

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-103

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Gloucester Township that the following refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Refund for Building Permit number 20171938 in the amount of \$297.00.

Payable to: Sunrun, Inc
Attn: Stacey Williams-Ewan
20 West Stowe Rd, Suite 2
Marlton, NJ 08053

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-104

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Gloucester Township that the following refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Refund for Building Permit number 20170189 in the amount of \$65.00.

Payable to: Wire Wiz Electrical Services
Attn: Michael J. Darragh
321 Island Lane
Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08234

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-105

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Gloucester Township that the following refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Refund for Building Permit numbers 20160550 & 20180287 in the amount of \$130.00.

Payable to: Pulse Plumbing
Attn: Cathy Schenberger
406 Bloomfield Dr
West Berlin, NJ 08091

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-106

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Gloucester Township that the following refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Refund for Building Permit numbers:

16-1907	45 Cedar Grove Dr	\$238.00
16-1917	22 Highwoods Ave	\$238.00
16-0003	505 Fresno Pl	\$189.00
16-0057	101 Centennial Dr	\$238.00

Total: \$903.00

Payable to: Solar City Corp DBA Tesla
Attn: Permitting
1001 Lower Landing Rd #601
Blackwood, NJ 08012

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-107

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of Gloucester Township that the following refunds be and are hereby authorized:

Refund for Building Permit numbers 20171358 in the amount of \$65.00.

Payable to: Matthew Doherty
1 Edelweiss Ct
Sicklerville, NJ 08081

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-108

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAX SALE
CERTIFICATES #17-00759 and #17-00415 AND REFUND THE LIEN HOLDER FOR
ERRONEOUS LIEN DUE TO BANKRUPTCY**

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2017 Certificate of Sale #17-00759, was sold to US Bk Cust for PC7 Firsttrust for delinquent sewers for Block 14902, Lot 43, assessed to 13 Raintree Drive in the amount of \$513.28 and;

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2017 Certificate of Sale #17-00415, was sold to US Bk Cust for PC7 Firsttrust for delinquent maintenance charges for Block 11109, Lot 21, assessed to 156 Kelly Driver Road in the amount of \$1,463.98 and;

WHEREAS, the certificates were sold in error due to a bankruptcy filed,

WHEREAS, the lien holder has been informed and requests a refund,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council of the Township of Gloucester are hereby authorizing the tax collector to cancel the certificates and issue a refund in the amount of \$578.84 and.

Certificate Amount	\$513.28
Legal Interest	.56
Affidavit/Record Fee	<u>65.00</u>
Total Due	\$578.84

Certificate Amount	\$1,463.98
Legal Interest	2.34
Affidavit/Record Fee	<u>65.00</u>
Total Due	\$1,531.32

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-109

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO GRANT SENIOR
CITIZEN, DISABLED, OR VETERAN DEDUCTION FOR THE YEAR 2018 AS
INDICATED AND TO ADJUST ANY BALANCE**

WHEREAS, the following applicants are the owners of a residential property located in the Township of Gloucester, and,

WHEREAS, they have properly filed an application for a Senior Citizen, Disabled, or Veteran Deduction with proof of eligibility, and

WHEREAS, the Assessor has reviewed and approved said application and adjusted the records for 2018,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the Tax Collector is authorized to grant said deduction and/or adjust any resulting balances for the year 2018 and refund any balances for the amounts indicated.

Block	Lot	Name	Comment	Amount of Deduction
701	6	Joan Heck	Add Sen Cit Deduction 2018	250.00
3309	18	John Knecht	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
8002	1C1607	Miriam Hess	Add Wid of Vet Deduction 2018	250.00
9305	14	Joan Lyons	Add Sen Cit Deduction 2018	250.00
9706	2	George Trout	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
9905	23	Joseph Murray	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
12503	5	Kevin Dicks	Add Disability Deduction 2018	250.00
13502	24	Mohammad Uddin	Add Disability Deduction 2018	250.00
14901	4	Thomas Collins	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
15817	6	Roger Eldridge	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
15910	3	Sandra Capobianco	Add Sen Cit Deduction 2018	250.00
16004	1	Kurt Fago	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
16103	3	Anthony Scrivani	Add Sen Cit Deduction 2018	250.00
16121	3	Gerard DiBona	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
17701	11	James Draffen	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
18403	13	Troy Webb	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00
19707	6	Brian Brindley	Add Veteran Deduction 2018	250.00

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-110

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTIONS FOR TAX YEAR 2018 FIRST HALF AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL TAXES AND REFUND ANY OVERPAYMENTS

WHEREAS, the following names are owners and residents of property in the Township of Gloucester, and

WHEREAS, they have made proper application for Total and Permanent Service-Connected Disability tax exempt status on their property designated with the block and lots listed below and,

WHEREAS, they have submitted proper evidence of Total and Permanent Disability rating from the U.S. Veterans Administration in accordance with State Regulations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester that the Tax Collector is authorized to grant said exemption, cancel property taxes as stated for 2018 first half and refund any resulting credit balances.

Block	Lot	Name	Comment	Amount to be Credited
11109	12	Santos M Roman	Add Disabled Veteran Assess. \$229,700	\$2,189.04
17604	30	Calvin Naylor	Add Disabled Veteran Assess. \$243,900	\$2,321.32
18305	10	James Haynes	Add Disabled Veteran Assess. \$298,100	\$2,885.61
18801	30	Damien Smith	Add Disabled Veteran Assess. \$177,000	\$1,684.60

ADOPTED: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-111

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER, CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING DAVID F. CARLAMERE ESQ. TO COMMENCE FORECLOSURE OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

WHEREAS, it appears there are Tax Sale Certificates that have not been foreclosed, and no payment has been made within the time prescribed by law and said period has elapsed, and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has certified the attached list, herein known as Tax Foreclosure List, of land that may be foreclosed in accordance with the law of the State of New Jersey, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, Camden County, New Jersey that David F. Carlamere Esq. is hereby authorized to commence foreclosure proceeding on the Tax Sale Certificates as shown on the attached foreclosure list now held by the Township of Gloucester.

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-112

**RESOLUTION OF TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
GLOUCESTER, CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING
TAX SALE CERTIFICATES TO BE FORECLOSED**

WHEREAS, it appears there are Tax Sale Certificates that have not been foreclosed; and
WHEREAS, It further appears no payment has been made within the time prescribed by
law and said period has elapsed; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has certified the attached list, herein known as Tax
Foreclosure List, of land that may be foreclosed in accordance with the law of the State of New
Jersey.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township
of Gloucester, Camden County, New Jersey that the Tax Sale certificates as shown on the
attached foreclosure list now held by the Township of Gloucester be foreclosed by the summary
proceedings IN REM, and as described by N.J.S.A. 54:5-104.29 TO 54:5-104.71. as amended,
and pursuant to the Rules of Civil Service Practice of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-113

**RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R-18:01-021 ENTITLED "RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING LEGAL DEPOSITORIES FOR
THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER"**

WHEREAS, it is necessary that the legal depositories of the funds of Gloucester
Township designated for the year 2018 to include South Jersey Federal Credit Union;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the
Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, that the following banking institution be and is
hereby designated as a legal depository to be added to the banking institutions established for the
Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, for the year 2018.

South Jersey Federal Credit Union
1615 Hurffville Road
Deptford, NJ 08096

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

R-18:04-114

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AUTHORIZATION FOR REMINGTON & VERNICK TO
SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO DVRPC FOR A TCDI PLANNING GRANT
FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER**

WHEREAS, the Township of Gloucester supports the request for planning grant dollars from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Township of Gloucester understands the grant amount requested must provide a 20% local match of the total project cost while at least 5% must cover administration of the grant through in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, Township of Gloucester fully understands the application requirements including mandatory meetings and attachments; and

WHEREAS, Township of Gloucester fully understands the federal contracting process and rules as outlined in Uniform Guidance 2 C.F.R.200 if awarded the planning grant dollars; and

WHEREAS, Township of Gloucester, fully understands that noncompliance with federal procurement rules and DVRPC contracting parameters will result in the loss of TCDI funds; and

WHEREAS, that Township of Gloucester HEREBY AUTHORIZES Remington & Vernick Engineers to submit an application to DVRPC for a TCDI planning grant; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Township of Gloucester agrees to, if selected for the TCDI grant, to: engage in contracting procedures including the competitive Request for Proposals and budget allocation; sign grant agreement documents; agree to submit reimbursement invoices and progress reports along with necessary supporting documentation; take all necessary action to complete the project associated with the grant agreement within the 24 month timeframe, and submit the final deliverable to DVRPC; and provide proof of adoption or acceptance by the governing body through a resolution that must be submitted no later than August 31, 2020 to DVRPC. DVRPC will reserve payment of the last 10% of the grant award until such resolution and the final deliverable is received.

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried 7-0.

**REGULAR AGENDA
R-18:04-115**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
GLOUCESTER AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO
READ THE TOWNSHIP BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-8 provides that the budget, as advertised, may be read by title only at the time of the public hearing provided that at least one week prior to the hearing a complete copy of the approved budget, as advertised, is posted in a public place where public notices are customarily posted in the municipal building and that the approved budget, as advertised, was made available to each person requesting same, and

WHEREAS, the Township has complied with those two requirements, posting a copy of the approved budget, as advertised, on the municipal building notice board, and provided copies to each person who requested same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The conditions set forth regarding posting and providing copies of the approved budget, as advertised, have been met.
2. The 2018 Township budget shall be read by title only.

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Stubbs. Roll call vote: All in favor.
Motion carried 7-0.

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2018 BUDGET
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER, COUNTY OF CAMDEN**

WHEREAS, the local municipal budget for the year 2018 was approved on the 26th day of March, 2018, and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on said budget has been held as advertised, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Gloucester, County of Camden, that the following amendments to the approved budget of 2018 be made:

CURRENT FUND - REVENUES	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Public and Private Revenues Offset with		
Drunk Driving Enforcement (Sheet 9)		7,685.92
Municipal Alliance (Sheet 9)	39,629.74	39,826.26
Body Armor (Sheet 9)		10,784.17
Emergency Management (Sheet 9)		5,000.00
COPS in Shops (Sheet 9)		2,400.00
Drive Sober Get Pulled Over (Sheet 9)		11,000.00
 Total Section F: Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Public and Private Revenues (Sheet 9c)	 129,629.74	 166,696.35
Summary of Revenues (Sheet 11)		
3. Miscellaneous Revenues		
Total Section F: Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Written Consent of Director of Local Government Services- Public and Private Revenues	129,629.74	166,696.35
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	9,737,941.24	9,775,007.85
5. Subtotal General Revenues		
	13,947,941.24	13,985,007.85
6. Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget		
a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	47,945,812.45	47,829,279.04
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	47,945,812.45	47,829,279.04
7. Total General Revenues		
	61,893,753.69	61,814,286.89
 CURRENT FUND - APPROPRIATIONS		
	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
8. General Appropriations		
(A) Operations - within "CAPS"		
General Government Functions		
Office of the Township Administrator		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 12)	144,000.00	137,500.00
Office of Human Resources		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 12)	251,900.00	246,000.00
Office of Mayor		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 12)	189,000.00	181,000.00
Office of the Treasury		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 13)	226,500.00	222,500.00
Office of Data Processing		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 13)	50,000.00	47,000.00
Office of Township Attorney		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 14)	147,000.00	142,000.00
Office of Community Development		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 15)	266,000.00	262,000.00
Public Safety Director		
Police Department		
Other Expenses (Sheet 15a)	893,970.00	878,240.00
Office of Prosecutor		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 15b)	90,000.00	82,000.00
Public Works Function		
Office of Director		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 15b)	148,000.00	147,100.00
General Government Functions		
Municipal Court		
Salaries and Wages (Sheet 15e)	606,000.00	570,000.00
<hr/>		
Total Operations (Item 8 (A)) within "CAPS" (Sheet 17a)	46,310,082.00	46,213,052.00
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Total Operations Including Contingent - within "CAPS" (Sheet 17a)	46,310,082.00	46,213,052.00
Detail:		
Salaries and Wages	25,498,111.00	25,146,811.00
Other Expenses	20,811,971.00	21,066,241.00
 (H-1) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes within CAPS (Sheet 19)		
	52,993,186.00	52,896,156.00
 Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenues		
Drunk Driving Enforcement (Sheet 24)		7,685.92

Municipal Alliance (Sheet 24)	39,629.74	39,826.26
Municipal Alliance Local Match (Sheet 24)		15,730.00
Body Armor (Sheet 24)		10,784.17
Emergency Management (Sheet 24)		5,000.00
COPS in Shops (Sheet 24)		2,400.00
Drive Sober Get Pulled Over (Sheet 24)		11,000.00
Total Public and Private Programs Offset by Revenues (Sheet 25)	151,167.74	203,964.35
Total Operations - Excluded from "CAPS" (Sheet 25)	248,167.74	300,964.35
Detail		
Salaries and Wages	90,000.00	103,400.00
Other Expenses	158,167.74	197,564.35
(H-2) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes Excluded from "CAPS" (Sheet 28)	8,057,137.74	8,109,934.35
(O) Total General Appropriations - Excluded from "CAPS" (Sheet 29)	8,057,137.74	8,109,934.35
(L) Subtotal General Appropriations (Items H-1 and O) (Sheet 29)	61,050,323.74	61,006,090.35
(M) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes (Sheet 29)	843,429.95	808,196.54
9. Total General Appropriations (Sheet 29)	61,893,753.69	61,814,286.89
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS (Sheet 30)	From	To
(H-1) Total General Appropriations for Municipal Purposes within "CAPS"	52,993,186.00	52,896,156.00
(A) Operations Excluded from "CAPS"		
Public and Private Progs Offset by Revs.	151,167.74	203,964.35
Total Operations Excluded from "CAPS"	248,167.74	300,964.35
(M) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	843,429.95	808,268.89
Total General Appropriations	61,893,753.69	61,814,286.89
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED , that two certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the Office of the Director of Local Government Services for certification of the local municipal budget so amended.		
It is hereby certified that this is a true copy of a resolution amending the budget, adopted by the Township Council on the 23rd day of April, 2018.		
Adopted: April 23, 2018		
<hr/> PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL		
ATTEST:		
<hr/> TOWNSHIP CLERK		

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2018 CALENDAR YEAR BUDGET

Mr. Mercado opened the public hearing.

Al Sterling of Cecilia Drive asked for an annual breakdown by percentage of where his property taxes have gone in the last decade. Mr. Sterling stated that he is scrimping and saving in order to pay his taxes that were \$4,000 in 2006 and are now \$7,000 in 2017.

Joann Burgaren of Sumpter Court stated that she is 71 years old and working harder now. Ms. Burgaren told council that council is supposed to work for the residents, but keep raising taxes. Nancy Schmidt of Williamstown Road voiced her concern that residents are asking questions, but no one from council is answering. Ms. Schmidt asked how many members of council are going to vote for the budget. Mr. Mercado stated that he cannot say what his colleagues are going to do. Mr. Mercado stated that council will listen to the public portion and then vote. Ms. Schmidt asked what the school board percentage of her taxes are. Mr. Mercado stated 48%. Ms. Schmidt stated that she is tired of male sports and that arts have been removed from the schools. Ms. Schmidt stated her neighbors are moving and that every time she improves her house, her taxes go up. Ms. Schmidt suggested breaking away from the Black Horse Pike Regional School District. Ms. Schmidt stated that the township purchased the Nike Base because they wanted to

control it, when other people wanted it, and have let it overgrow. Mr. Mercado stated that the township has been trying to sell that property and are looking for the best developer.

Joe, a resident, asked council with this revision if council has the best budget possible. Mr. Mercado stated that the budget has been presented to the state and was given approval to be adopted tonight. Mr. Mercado stated that if the budget is defeated, the state will then decide the budget. Joe asked why council did not make these budget changes back in March when the budget was first introduced. Mr. Mercado stated that council took a second look after the comments from last week's meeting.

Ann Sterling of Cecilia Drive asked council what the miscellaneous is in the budget. Ms. Sterling suggested deducting things from the budget because there is a lot of waste, such as vehicle wrappings and AstroTurf. Mr. Cardis stated that miscellaneous is a state term used in every municipal budget which includes a multitude of categories. Mr. Cardis stated that miscellaneous is in the revenue section.

Karen Deterling of Sturbridge Drive questioned the 7.7% tax increase of the township's 28%. Karen asked if the rest of the pie comes from the other taxing entities. Mr. Mercado stated that we do not dictate what the budgets are going to be for the other taxing entities. Karen asked council if they suggest her attending other meetings, i.e. school board. Mr. Mercado stated they are elected officials.

Pat Kline of Terrestria asked how there is so much flexibility in the budget. Mr. Cardis stated that those are grants, as the grants become available they are added to the budget. Mr. Cardis stated that the grants do not affect the tax levy. Ms. Kline asked how the township was able to adjust the budget by decreasing salaries. Mr. Mercado stated that the 2% director increase was removed. Ms. Kline asked why the changes to the budget were not posted and to be fair to the people who voted council in, they should have respect enough to give residents a time to view changes. Mr. Mercado stated that the amended budget was posted today because the state called late this afternoon with approval for this budget.

Carol Colinceco of Timberbirch stated that she reviewed a neighborhood Facebook page that compared Gloucester Township to Cherry Hill's budget and Gloucester Township spent more. Ms. Colinceco asked council if the two township were comparable. Mr. Mercado stated that Cherry Hill has far more commercial ratable than Gloucester Township. Mr. Cardis stated that Cherry Hill's budget is higher than ours. Ms. Colinceco suggested lowering salaries. Mr. Cardis stated that most employees are under contract obligations. Ms. Colinceco suggested getting rid of the unions. Mr. Hutchison stated to keep in mind that Cherry Hill may categorize things differently on their budget than Gloucester Township. Mr. Hutchison stated that there is a \$1.1 million increase in public safety.

Tina Marone of Broadmoore West stated that she is a senior and a 35 year resident of Gloucester Township. Ms. Marone asked if the outlets are actually helping the tax payers. Mr. Mercado stated that the land was farmland assessed prior to being sold. On that parcel, the approximate taxes are \$431,000 with a 5 year tax abatement. This year the township will receive \$1.4 million from the outlets. Ms. Marone voiced her concern that the school budget has half the pie. On a \$10,000 tax bill, the increase is \$192 for the municipality. Ms. Marone asked if the township could take into consideration what other taxing entities are charging residents.

Boris Ball of Winding Way stated that he is a 25 year resident, his income comes from overseas, and that he doesn't need to live in this state or in Gloucester Township. Mr. Ball's taxes have paid for other people's children to go to school. Mr. Ball asked council what they would tell someone like himself who does not have to live here. Mr. Hutchison stated he can address why people may want to live in this town based on neighboring towns of Winslow, Lindenwold, Pine Hill, Stratford, Magnolia, etc. Mr. Hutchison stated that we have tremendous opportunities for the youth of the town to stay away from the bad things they should stay away from. Mr. Hutchison stated that our police department is very active in protecting our community. Mr. Owens stated he previously lived in Cherry Hill and when it came time to start a family, he and his wife decided to move to Gloucester Township for the sense of community and many programs for the township. Ms. Stubbs stated that teachers in her building are able to order supplies and paper, even though the quality may not be perfect. Mr. Ball voiced his concerns regarding low income housing which would require more services, which will increase the budget and then taxes. Mr. Ball asked how council feels low income housing will affect the township. Mr. Mercado stated that 11 out of the 74 homes are designated as low income. Mr. Hutchison stated that every unit, every house that comes into this town will increase the cost of services. Mr. Ball asked if a tenant broke the law, would that result in a termination of residency. Ms. Stubbs asked what extra services would those 11 units need. Mr. Ball stated that La Cascata requires more police activity. Mr. Ball stated that he has seen snow bulldozer going up and down the street when there is no snow. Mr. Cardis stated that the township primarily

salts and hires outside contractors to clean up snow at approximately 3-4 inches to clear streets and make them accessible to emergency services.

Judy Jones of Chatham Road stated that Mr. Bucceroni never called her from the discussion during the last meeting. Mr. Bucceroni told Ms. Jones 3 years ago that he would remove the trees. Ms. Jones stated that she has to put her house up for sale because of the taxes, but won't be able to sell it because of all the debris that is sitting behind her house. Ms. Jones stated council controls 28% of her \$10,000 in taxes. Ms. Jones asked what council can do to impact the 48% of the school. Mr. Mercado stated that this Thursday and next Monday, the school boards will be adopting their budgets. Ms. Jones asked if the township can fix her apron which has been destroyed by the salt and brine. Mr. Cardis stated that if it's on your property, it is your responsibility but someone will come out and look at it.

Andy Blizzard of Rosegate stated that council makes approximately \$8,000 and that second job pays their taxes. Ms. Blizzard asked council what their funds would look like if they gave up that \$8,000. Mr. Hutchison stated that he gave up a year's salary while he has been on council and has paid for the town's fireworks when there wasn't enough money in the budget. Ms. Blizzard suggested the Mayor give up his salary because he has a full time job. Mr. Hutchison asked where can we cut this budget and make a meaningful impact, public safety. Mr. Hutchison stated public safety is \$18 million of the budget which does not include pension or insurance. Ms. Blizzard stated that since the school board is getting 48% of resident taxes, how can the school board and council come together to solve this issue. Mr. Cardis stated that by combining insurances the township and school board could save a large sum of money. Ms. Blizzard asked why the township cannot keep businesses on Blackwood Clementon Road. Mr. Mercado stated that Gloucester Township was always a bedroom community in the past with higher levels of residential than commercial.

Joann Carr of Timberbirch asked council how many vacant homes are on their street. Mr. Mercado stated that his cul-de-sac is full. Mr. Hutchison stated one on his street. Ms. Carr asked when the township gets reassessed, if the assessment goes down, will the rate of tax go up because the township still has to raise the same amount in taxes. Mr. Mercado stated that is possible. Mr. Hutchison stated that just because your home is assessed for less does not mean your municipal services will go down.

Frank Brandis of Raintree Drive stated that he is a 30 year resident and asking for consideration since the taxes went up 12% two years ago. Mr. Brandis stated that in the collective bargaining agreement, council represents the residents. Mr. Brandis stated that the township is aging and the school should cap or flatten out. Mr. Brandis cited Lumberton, a town successful with commercial ratables lowering taxes for residents. Mr. Brandis stated that resident homes are decreasing in value, but his salary is not keeping up with the tax increase.

Denise Coyne of Chews Landing Road asked for clarification regarding previous statements that the township did not want to build on the Nike Base because of the stress on students, but this new apartment complex won't affect students. Mr. Mercado stated in 2006, there was a stress on Mullen School but the student population has dropped. If the budget for school is 48% and these apartments are going to be non-age restricted high density apartments, won't taxes increase. Ms. Coyne also stated that low income townhomes are being planned across from St. Agnes Church. Mr. Mercado stated that he has heard these rumors but has no knowledge of these plans. Mr. Lechner stated that an application was made to remove the age restriction from the property. Mr. Mercado stated that the township does not own the land. Ms. Coyne asked if allowing these high density apartments to be built, won't our taxes increase. Mr. Hutchison stated yes. Mr. Mercado stated that he disagreed. Ms. Coyne stated that allowing these high density places to come to the township will only increase our school taxes. Mr. Mercado explained what happens if the township denies these applications. Mr. Mercado cited the situation with Recovery Centers Of America.

Terri Fretz of Blackwood stated that Loring Fleming is the largest school with 708 students and that the apartments going up will be sending students to Loring Fleming and Glen Landing. Ms. Fretz questioned who has control of what is happening in school. Ms. Fretz voiced her frustrations that the school board blames council and council blames the school board. Ms. Fretz asked council to look at the big picture. Ms. Fretz asked if the impact on schools is a consideration when an application is before the zoning or planning boards. Mr. Lechner stated it is not in the state of New Jersey. Mr. Lechner stated that the state of New Jersey only accepts traffic impact, not school or fire district impacts.

Ray Polidoro of Erial asked council, in dollars and cents, how much more is the new budget. Mr. Cardis stated approximately 2 million more in appropriations. Mr. Polidoro stated that the township has 4 million in surplus and is now asking for 2 more million in addition to the 4 million. Mr. Cardis stated that the 4 million is used in this budget to offset the taxes. Mr.

Polidoro stated that every time the budget gets heated, council blames the state. Mr. Polidoro asked what happened to the money earmarked for State Street and Brittany Woods parks. Mr. Cardis stated that we estimate what the project costs. Mr. Cardis stated that he does not agree with Mr. Polidoro's figures. Mr. Cardis stated that it is applied to the budget, its not surplus. Mr. Polidoro stated that someone made a lot of money on the ground where the outlets are located. Mr. Mercado stated Nicholson farms owned that property and sold it to a group. Mr. Polidoro stated that residents were lead to believe a medical facility was going there. Mr. Mercado stated that the recession hit. Mr. Polidoro stated that Mr. Norcross made about 8 million dollars on that property. Mr. Polidoro stated that township employees are receiving reimbursement for their copays. Mr. Cardis stated that is correct, contractually negotiated about 25 or 30 years ago for some employees that are still in effect. Mr. Polidoro stated that it would be nice to talk to council and the school boards at the same time, but the meetings are scheduled at the same time.

Joe Deleo of Lincoln Drive asked council for an itemized budget so that residents can view it. Mr. Deleo stated that he doesn't get reimbursements for his copays and he is a government employee. Mr. Deleo suggested to look at business plans because 72 apartments are not going to lower taxes, businesses lower taxes. Mr. Deleo stated that council needs to find a way to create revenue without taking it from the people of the township. Mr. Mercado stated that he agreed. Mr. Deleo also suggested limiting people to 3 minutes when speaking at a council meeting. Mr. Deleo stated that the township should be grabbing up all available land and make it attractive to businesses. Mr. Mercado stated that individuals in town do not want commercial developers. Mr. Deleo suggested banks should buy vacant homes, refurbish, and give to wounded vets. Mr. Mercado stated that there is a program to identify these foreclosed homes and in partnering with the housing authority renovate these properties and make them available to low or moderate income individuals. Mr. Deleo suggested council make banks pay to be in Gloucester Township by having them invest in foreclosed and abandoned homes.

Eileen Spina of Hobart asked council who determines how much money the schools get. Mr. Mercado stated that the schools have to raise money to meet their budget. Ms. Spina asked who hires assessors for the township. Ms. Spina stated that her home was over assessed in the last assessment. Ms. Spina stated that houses in her development were purchased, gutted, and renovated and sold for \$169k. Ms. Spina stated that her home is way over assessed and her taxes are based upon the over assessed values.

Colleen Reese of Broadmoor West stated the budget is hard, but there is always room to cut. Ms. Reese stated that one of her children went to Paul VI and two went to Highland. Ms. Reese stated a lot of residents choose to send their children out of district because the schools are not rated high despite what residents are paying in school taxes.

Sam Sweet of Erial questioned the \$106k that the township put in for and the \$56k grant for the Brittany Woods project using Mr. Polidoro's numbers. Mr. Sweet asked if the \$56k grant pays down the bond. Mr. Cardis stated that the \$56k is either cancelled or reallocated to another project. Mr. Sweet asked how to cancel a bond. Mr. Cardis stated that you would cancel that money and then anticipate it in the budget. Mr. Cardis stated that it is a revenue line item because the state views it as offsetting the debt service in a particular year. Mr. Sweet stated that the grant has to go to the project, but the rest of the money can be allocated elsewhere. Mr. Sweet stated that there are no family oriented places in Gloucester Township other than Bounce U and Blackwood Clementon Road is empty. Mr. Sweet questioned what the township's debt service from last year is because a big part of the budget is debt service. Mr. Cardis stated that the debt service is about the same. Mr. Sweet suggested letting sports leagues raise their own money. Mr. Sweet asked how much money the township has given Erial Little League in the past ten years. Mr. Mignone stated the parking lot, multiple flag poles, two parking lots, and concession stand. Mr. Sweet stated that the information he is receiving from his treasurer is incorrect. Mr. Sweet suggested the township stop funding all of the leagues and spending 10% on bonds to help lower taxes.

Bob Sambucco of Blackwood stated that council is out of ideas to lower taxes. Mr. Sambucco asked if the township can poll some of the 63k people to forensically go through the budget on an annual basis to help Mr. Cardis. Mr. Sambucco believes a resident subcommittee will figure out how to get the budget lowered. Mr. Sambucco suggested created a subcommittee of individuals who can figure out how to get things done cheaper instead of bonding millions for turf fields.

Mike Dicamillo, a resident, asked what the next procedure is to get the resident subcommittee started and will it be addressed at the next meeting or will it die down. Mr. Mercado stated that it is something council can address with the administration. Mr. Dicamillo suggested getting a new auditor to review the township. Mr. Mercado stated that the township has an auditor,

Bowman & Company which is posted on the township website. Mr. Dicamillo suggested getting a different auditor for transparency. Mr. Dicamillo cited the school roof and solar panel issue and questioned the accountability of whomever made that decision without checking the roof. Mr. Hutchison reiterated Mr. Dicamillo's statement of getting a different auditor to help lower taxes. Mr. Hutchison mentioned the 18 million allocated to public safety, but stated no one wants to cut the police. Mr. Dicamillo asked council to make residents more aware of where the money is going. Mr. Hutchison invited Mr. Dicamillo to attend workshops the first Monday of every month.

Paul Fulgineeti of Southgate Woods stated that taxes have gone up 17% while property values have declined 17% and his monthly tax bill is equal to his mortgage payment. Mr. Hutchison asked what the market value of Mr. Fulgineeti's house is currently and what it was in the time period he is referring to. Mr. Fulgineeti stated \$250,000 and an independent assessment five years ago of \$320,000. Mr. Hutchison stated that he would call Mr. Fulgineeti tomorrow about this topic. Mr. Fulgineeti asked of the 7% tax increase, how much of it went to salaries. Mr. Mercado stated 1.8 million dollars. Mr. Mercado stated that these items are contractual and locked in. Mr. Fulgineeti asked if there is an increase locked in year after year. Mr. Cardis stated yes 2% or less and some of this is retros because of late negotiated contracts.

Glory Fulgineeti of Southgate Woods stated that council needs to keep residents to the time limit. Ms. Fulgineeti asked what the one penny to the school boards translates to on an assessed home of 250,000. Mr. Cardis stated \$25. Ms. Fulgineeti questioned the police department's 18 million dollar budget and stated that there has to be something in there that can be cut without affecting public safety.

David Haag of Highland Village asked council if they are voting on the written budget or the budget read by the Township Clerk. Mr. Mercado stated the amended read budget. Mr. Haag stated that line 5 was read incorrectly. Ms. Power stated that she can note on the record if it was read wrong, a correction can be made. Mr. Haag asked what Open Space was. Mr. Cardis stated it was a referendum that authorizes the township to raise up to .02 cents per year. Mr. Haag stated that taxes only go up when it is not an election year. Mr. Hutchison cited a problem that Mr. Haag had behind his property that Mr. Hutchison helped him with. Mr. Haag volunteered to help go over the budget.

There being no further comment, the public portion was closed.

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to amend, seconded by Mr. Owens. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

R-18:04-117

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF GLOUCESTER, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE
OF NEW JERSEY, ADOPTING THE 2018 CALENDAR YEAR
BUDGET**

WHEREAS, Township Council of the Township of Gloucester has previously introduced and approved the 2018 Calendar Year Budget; and

WHEREAS, Township Council of the Township of Gloucester has followed the laws of the State of New Jersey regarding the introduction, first reading, properly advertising for and the scheduling of a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Township Council of the Township of Gloucester has received approval from the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, and State of New Jersey for the Calendar Year 2018 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED and approved that the 2018 Calendar Year Budget be and is hereby adopted as submitted and approved.

Adopted: April 23, 2018

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP CLERK, RMC

Mr. Hutchison made a motion to adopt, seconded by Mr. Owens.

Mr. Hutchison stated that he is aware many people are not there tonight after waiting to hear the vote. Mr. Hutchison stated that he believes it is a responsible budget, but the budget is going to hurt. Mr. Hutchison stated that he expressed his opinion throughout the meeting so there was no doubt how he would vote. Mr. Hutchison stated that he cannot reduce the police budget, insurance cost is high, and the township produces good services for the town. Mr. Hutchison asked himself where he would cut in the budget, picked a few things, and then asked himself if the town was better off and his answer was no.

Mr. Owens stated that his voting yes on the budget. Mr. Owens stated that council is in a tough position after hearing resident concern.

Mrs. Stubbs stated that it is difficult to balance budgets, provide services, and try to satisfy everyone. Mrs. Stubbs stated that council had discussions, went over the budget to see what could be cut, made changes and amended the budget. Mrs. Stubbs stated that she is going to vote yes on the budget.

Mrs. Winters stated that council met, went through the budget, and managed to cut \$100k from the budget. Mrs. Winters stated that there was not more that could be cut without having huge impacts to the town. Mrs. Winters stated that she is voting yes.

Mr. Mignone stated that he votes yes.

Mrs. Trotto stated that she cannot say anything different than her colleagues stated before her.

Mrs. Trotto stated that council has struggled with this decision over the past few weeks, but believes that council is putting forth the best budget they can for the municipality. Mrs. Trotto stated that she voted yes.

Mr. Mercado stated that he appreciates everyone's comments and emails over the past few weeks. Mr. Mercado stated that the shared services with schools, with other municipalities helps alleviate some of the tax burdens, but the township has a revenue and appropriation problem.

Mr. Mercado stated that he is voting yes.

Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

GT E-GOV ACCESS

Paul Hornick of Monroe Drive asked the following question:

1. *Do you anticipate taxes will be affected in positive way for residents once the premium outlets are paying full taxes?* Mr. Mercado stated that the amount of taxes received from the outlets has increased by \$600k from the previous year. Mr. Mercado stated that once the outlets pay 100% it will help alleviate the tax payers.

Tara Dimpski of Mockingbird Lane asked the following question:

1. *I listen to the council meeting on Monday, April 9, 2018. People mentioned how we are much like Cherry Hill in relation to taxes, spending, and revenues alike, but what is vastly different is amenities. In Gloucester Township, property values are substantially lower than a property in Cherry Hill. They have nice stores like Wegmans and Whole Foods, we have Shoprite and Acme. We are not the same, we are almost subpar compared to the likes of Cherry Hill and Voorhees.....so again why are the taxes so high? We pay taxes as if our home values and retail stores are of the caliber of Cherry Hill and Voorhees and they are clearly NOT.* Mr. Mercado stated that he is concerned with Gloucester Township and for the past few hours, have discussed the services Gloucester Township offers.

James F. Dych of Buttonwood Lane asked the following question:

1. *Hello, few things I wanna get off my chest due to the fact that I was unable to speak at the meeting on my own account it was 11 pm when I left, taxes are being raised again for the third time in 3 years I was at the meeting April 9th and plan to hopefully be at many more I see lots of wasted money being spent in our twp, why is there Gloucester twp stickers popping up on all the traffic light boxes I think we all know where we live and so do the visitors that travel here, also all the bike paths, that are being bid on bike stations all these parks that are popping up, Please tell me where is the money coming from. Council should be looking for ways to reduce spending and possibly giving tax breaks people living on fixed incomes like myself are being driven out of this area and the state just you know I am a tax payer in this township since 1986. Thank you James Dych.* Mr. Mercado stated that taxes have not increased 3 times in 3 years. Mr. Mercado stated the bike stations were completed with a grant. Mr. Cardis stated the stickers help designate the boxes for utility companies.

Lisa Hallsworth of Annapolis Drive asked the following question:

1. *Hello. After sitting through last night's meeting, which was so frustrating that I left at 11:00, I had to voice my opinion. I have been a Gloucester Twp. resident for 19*

years. I have 3 children who have grown up in this township. When we moved here, Gloucester Twp. was considered a good place to live. Taxes were a bit high, but because of the status of good schools, it was worth it. Since then, schools have declined and taxes have doubled. It is sad to walk in my neighborhood and see so many empty homes. I heard so many people last night say that they can't wait to leave Gloucester Twp. That is sad. We are in that group. Our house is getting older and needs work but we can't afford it anymore. Our homes have been assessed at a higher value than we can sell for and therefore taxes are also higher making it hard to sell and hard for a buyer to get approved for a mortgage. Meanwhile, I see the Mayor smiling for photo ops all over town (where was he last night?) as he spends our money on frivolous things like parks that no access, bikes, a new logo and fancy signs all over town, workers getting raises and overtime and even wearing clothes emblazoned with our new GT logo. It should maybe stand for Got Taxes? at this point. If I want something and don't have the money, I do without, I DON'T RAISE TAXES once again. Please look at ways to reduce your budget and listen to the people before there is nobody left in this town who can afford to live here.

Dolores Matusavage of Huntingdon Mews asked the following question:

1. *Would like to know if you the council realize how frustrated, unhappy, disappointed, and sick at times wondering how are we going to continue to be able to live here in our homes and be able to continue with the quality of life that we have worked for if TAXES continue to be increased? I went to the meeting last night and what a mess it was. The residents of this community are totally disgusted with what is happening to our community. Council needs to wake up and realized that we pay their salaries and they have been elected by their community and will have to start listening and doing something about our needs. From the audience all I saw was blank faces on council as people spoke. At one point a council member (a man third in from the left- couldn't hear his name) had his middle finger up at the audience for some time as he did not like what was being said. When he realized that the audience noticed he took his finger down. What a disgrace! I don't believe this outrage on the residents part is going to go away. At the April 23rd meeting please have enough space to accompany all the residents who want to attend and PLEASE have the microphones in working condition.*

Tara Dimpski of Mockingbird Lane asked the following question:

1. *I listen to the council meeting on Monday, April 9, 2018. People mentioned how we are much like Cherry Hill in relation to taxes, spending, and revenues alike, but what is vastly different is amenities. Gloucester Township, property values are substantially lower than a property in Cherry Hill. They have nice stores like Wegmans and Whole Foods, we have Shoprite and Acme. WE are not the same, we are almost subpar compared to the likes of Cherry Hill and Voorhees....so again why are the taxes so high? We pay taxes as if or home values and retail stores are of the caliber of Cherry Hill and Voorhees and they are clearly NOT.*

PUBLIC PORTION:

Mr. Mercado opened the second public portion.

Sam Sweet of Erial asked about Recovery Centers of America, what the status is, and if it is an outpatient center. Mr. Sweet asked if he could contact Mr. Lechner to figure out what RCA's plans were. Mr. Sweet asked Mr. Hutchison if he was invited to the table as well. Mr. Hutchison stated yes.

Paul Fulgineeti of Southgate Woods suggested the township beautify Blackwood Clementon Road. Mr. Fulgineeti stated that he was part of that committee 9 years ago and went to one meeting and nothing happened. Mr. Mercado stated the recession hit and that plan stopped. Mr. Lechner cited several projects that have occurred to update Blackwood Clementon Road. Mr. Lechner cited the Blackwood Clementon Road Redevelopment Plan.

Boris Ball of Winding Way stated that the standards of living are changing. Mr. Ball voiced his concern that Gloucester Township has a big drug epidemic and sports programs help keep people out of drugs but the township's drug punishments are too lenient. Mr. Ball asked what is happening with Kmart on Blackwood Clementon Road. Mr. Mercado stated Benderson has that property listed for lease or sale. Mr. Ball asked if the township can approach Walmart or Amazon to fill that space. Mr. Lechner stated that these types of big anchor stores have long lengthy leases and just because Kmart is closed, does not mean Benderson is not being paid for their lease.

Sam Sweet of Erial questioned why in 2014, the Favorites in Gloucester Township was said to give the township 1% of its revenue in the local paper. Mr. Cardis stated that he never saw the actual agreement. Mr. Sweet stated that this posted in the Patch. Mr. Sweet stated that the Favorites in Vineland makes 32 million dollars and the Favorites in Tom's River makes 28 million. Mr. Carlamere stated that he would have to pull up the agreement but does not recall this. Mr. Mercado stated that he never heard that the township was receiving revenue from Favorites.

POLLING OF COUNCIL

Mr. Hutchison thanked everyone for coming this evening. Mr. Hutchison clarified a statement of his that was misinterpreted regarding credibility.

Mr. Owens thanked everyone for coming out tonight. Mr. Owens thanked the first responders.

Mrs. Stubbs thanked everyone for coming out and drive safe.

Mrs. Winters stated April 29- May 6 is a national hockey tournament in Lakeland. Blackwood Lake Advisory Committee is holding an event at the senior building for volunteer organizations.

Mr. Mignone thanked everyone for coming tonight. This Thursday is the Field of Dreams bingo fundraiser to help cover costs.

Mrs. Trotto thanked everyone for their comments and appreciated them. Mrs. Trotto stated that she struggled with this budget and hopes residents find the time to see the good things taking place in town such as the scholarship 5k, the playground, and Field of Dreams, Gabriel Davies Tavern.

Mr. Mercado thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their concerns.

Mr. Mercado made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Trotto. Roll call vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Power
Township Clerk, RMC

President of Council