

**BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG  
GOVERNING BODY MEETING  
MINUTES  
APRIL 10, 2013  
7:00 PM**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** This meeting is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met. Any contracts awarded require the contractor to comply with N.J.S.A.10:5-31 et.seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27. Also, in the event of a fire and pursuant to the N.J. Uniform Fire Code, members of the audience are requested to take notice of the exits at the front and rear of the Council Chambers as well as in the main hallway.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Led by Mayor Lowande

**MOMENT OF SILENCE – MR. HAROLD BERGER**

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Lowande  
Council President Carpenter  
Council Member Busco - Absent  
Council Member Kostbar  
Council Member Ludas  
Council Member Sussman  
Council Member Taylor  
Administrator Jawidzik  
Borough Attorney Raffetto

**GIRL SCOUT PRESENTATION TO MAYOR & COUNCIL:** Ms. Allison Kramer-Mills talked to the Mayor and Council about her project to obtain her Girl Scout Gold Award. She has written a 5<sup>th</sup> grade level children's book which will be translated to Spanish, about the history of Jamesburg and the Buckelew Mansion from the perspective of James Buckelew. She will be presenting her book May 11<sup>th</sup> at the New Jersey Historical State Fair and will also present and read her book to a class at JFK School in May or June. She explained that the cost of producing this book is \$500, in which \$200 has been already raised. Ms. Kramer-Mills presented Mayor Lowande with her proposal and asked if a donation could be considered to be given, in which Mayor Lowande accepted the proposal and advised that she would review and be in touch. Mayor Lowande and Council praised her for her hard work and dedication to Jamesburg.

**2013 MUNICIPAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:**

Administrator Jawidzik explained that the budget has been brought down to a 4.2 cent increase which is 2.71% more than the 2012 budget. This represents a \$51.68 increase for the year for the average home. We are anticipating a \$785,000 in surplus as compared to last year's \$280,000, this being available due to the sale of the cell tower lease for \$664,000. We are also anticipating the \$77,000 that we received from FEMA.

Appropriations without grants and the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes were \$4,700,000 in 2012 and are \$5,203,366 in 2013, with a net increase of \$503,366.

We have to budget an additional \$240,000 in the tax budget and \$58,000 in the sewer budget to cover the outstanding charges at the MUA and the anticipated increase in costs for 2013. Because the sewer budget can only spend the amount of money it raises from sewer bills, many items that we previously paid out of the sewer budget now have to be moved to taxes. They include Health and Liability Insurance of \$63,000.

We also have to pay the \$50,000 for the emergency we declared from Superstorm Sandy.

The library appropriation was increased to \$7,000.

**Motion Open to Public Hearing:**

Proposed By: Sussman

Seconded By: Taylor

All in Favor

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked if the Board of Education, Administrator Mr. Tom Reynolds, was lying in his response, when he stated that there is less revenue collected as a result of property assessment appeals to the question regarding the revenue that is expected to be received for taxes discussed at the March meeting; Administrator Jawidzik responded and Council Member Kostbar clarified. Mr. Van de Sande commented that he feels the question is not being answered properly.

Mr. Van de Sande asked if Mayor and Council would be willing to give back \$500 of their salaries to give the library what they originally asked for; Council Member Taylor responded, clarifying that the library had originally asked for \$20,000, shooting high in their expectation of receiving the amount they would need in order to continue operating efficiently. Council Member Taylor explained that in talking with the library at the last meeting, it was stated they needed \$6,800, in which they are receiving \$7,000 as appropriated in the 2013 budget. Mr. Van de Sande asked if the Council would still be willing to give up part of their salaries to fund an extra \$3,000 to go to the library, in which Mayor Lowande answered not at this time.

Mr. Van de Sande commented that the Mayor and Council sold an asset, being the cell tower for \$664,000, and is using the revenue in the proposed budget, Mr. Van de Sande asked where the revenue shortfall is that is being made up with this one time fix. Council Member Taylor responded that this is not a onetime fix as we did not use every

penny of it as there is \$79,000 of it leftover. Council Member Kostbar explained there were extraordinary expenses, such as, additional sewer, emergency for the hurricane and emergency bills that needed to be paid. Mr. Van de Sande asked for someone on Council to explain page 48, regarding the MUA agreement, why there is such a wild fluctuation. Council Member Taylor explained that the difference is because of the flow rate, an example being due to people flushing their toilets too often, all of which has been discussed. It is metered monthly, the County bills Monroe Twp. and Monroe Twp. bills us. Administrator Jawidzik and Council Member Taylor further clarified.

Motion to Close to Public Hearing:

Proposed By: Ludas  
 Seconded By: Kostbar  
 All in Favor

**RESOLUTION**

#072-04-10-13 Amend Approved Budget

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND APPROVED BUDGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF 40A:4-9**

**WHEREAS**, the Local Municipal Budget for 2013 was approved on March 13, 2013; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body desires to amend said approved budget;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, that the following amendments to the approved 2013 municipal budget be made:

**CURRENT FUND**

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES</b>		
Miscellaneous Revenues – Section A: Local Revenues		
FEMA	77,699.05	.00
Total Section A: Local Revenue	394,941.20	317,242.15
Miscellaneous Revenues Section G: Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Consent of Director of Local Government Services:		
FEMA	.00	77,699.05
Total Section G: Special Items of General Revenue Anticipated with Prior Consent of Director of Local Government Services:	20,728.00	98,427.05
<b>AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SUPPORT OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET</b>		
a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes Including Reserve for Uncollected Taxes		
	3,496,821.51	3,492,484.72
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget		
	3,649,047.51	3,644,710.72
<b>TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES</b>	<b>5,594,541.83</b>	<b>5,590,205.04</b>

**GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

RESERVE FOR UNCOLLECTED TAXES	380,456.71	376,119.92
<b>TOTAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>5,594,541.83</b>	<b>5,590,205.04</b>

**Be it further resolved**, that three certified copies of this resolution be filed forthwith in the office of the Director of Local Government Services for certification of the 2013 Local Municipal Budget as amended.

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COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar			X			
Council Member Ludas			X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor	X		X			
Council President Carpenter		X	X			
Mayor Lowande						

**1<sup>ST</sup> PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - EXCLUDES ORDINANCES (they have their own public hearing):** Members of the public wishing to address the Mayor and Borough Council must approach the podium and state their name and address for the record. There is a five (5) minute time limit for all comments and questions per citizen.

**Motion Open to Public Comment:**

Proposed By: Kostbar  
 Seconded By: Taylor  
 All in Favor

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande asked for an explanation on why Council is supporting Resolution #071-04-10-13. Administrator Jawidzik explained that this resolution is asking for the State to consider supporting that the County and School Board pay their share instead of it being fully burdened on the municipalities. Council Member Taylor clarified for anyone who did not understand. Inaudible comment made by Mr. Van de Sande.

**Motion to Close to Public Comment:**

Proposed By: Taylor  
 Seconded By: Carpenter  
 All in Favor

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING BY TITLE (PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR MAY 15, 2013):**

**ORDINANCE #07-13**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG TO ACQUIRE AN EASEMENT UPON AND ACROSS A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS BLOCK 73, LOT 2.01 IN CONNECTION WITH THE HALF ACRE ROAD CURB AND SIDEWALK PROJECT.**

**WHEREAS**, in connection with a public project intended to construct certain curbs and sidewalks along Half Acre Road, which project is being undertaken for public safety and transit purposes, it is necessary for the Borough of Jamesburg (the “Borough”) to acquire a public sidewalk and access easement (the “sidewalk easement”) upon and across certain real property that is located within the Borough along Half Acre Road; and

**WHEREAS**, the real property that will be affected by, and subject to, the sidewalk easement is identified in more detail as follows:

<b><u>Block</u></b>	<b><u>Lot</u></b>	<b><u>Area to be Acquired by the Borough</u></b>	<b><u>Record Owner</u></b>
73	2.01	5,932 square feet (0.14 acres)	Calvary Chapel Crossfield, Inc. Half Acre Road Jamesburg, N.J. 08831; and

**WHEREAS**, the area of the sidewalk easement is more specifically identified on a certain Site Easement Plan (the “Plan”) prepared by Remington, Vernick and Vena Engineers, dated January 23, 2013, a copy of which is attached hereto (copies are on file for public inspection and review in the Borough Clerk’s Office); and

**WHEREAS**, the acquisition of the sidewalk easement will allow the Borough to install a sidewalk, and to perform certain other related improvements, within the easement area; and

**WHEREAS**, the sidewalk easement is intended to be of a permanent duration; and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that the sidewalk easement shall be dedicated by Calvary Chapel Crossfield, Inc. to the Borough, without the necessity for the expenditure of any public funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey “Local Lands and Buildings Law,” N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, *et seq.*, and the New Jersey “Eminent Domain Act,” N.J.S.A. 20:3-1, *et seq.*, authorize a municipality to acquire an interest in real property for public purposes by conveyance (including dedication) or by condemnation, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough believe that the acquisition of the sidewalk easement (in furtherance of the public project referenced above) is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. That, in connection with the afore-mentioned public project intended to construct certain curbs and sidewalks along Half Acre Road, the Borough is hereby authorized to undertake acquisition proceedings in order to acquire by conveyance (including dedication), pursuant N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, *et seq.*, or by condemnation, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20:3-1, *et seq.*, a permanent easement upon and across the real property known and designated as Block 73, Lot 2.01, as depicted on the Plan referenced above.

2. That the Borough Attorney and Borough Engineer are hereby authorized and directed to undertake all necessary actions in furtherance of the matters set forth above on behalf of the Borough.

3. That the Mayor is authorized to execute and the Municipal Clerk to attest all necessary documents, which shall be in a form acceptable to the Borough Attorney, in order to effectuate the intentions of the within Ordinance.

4. That, following the introduction of this Ordinance, a copy of the Ordinance, along with a copy of the Plan, and a notice of the public hearing date, shall be mailed to Calvary Chapel Crossfield, Inc., by regular mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, at least seven (7) days prior to the date scheduled for the public hearing

5. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

6. That the provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable. In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be limited in its effect only to the portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged invalid and shall not be deemed to affect the operation of any other portion thereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

7. That all other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

**ORDINANCE #07-13**

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION TO INTRODUCE	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter			X			

Mayor Lowande						
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Council Member Kostbar explained that it is required to have an easement recorded to put the sidewalk over the Baptist Church property; it's required to have as it allows us to not only put the sidewalk in but to also go on the property to do any maintenance as needed. Council Member Taylor clarified that this is being done with grant money, with no cost to the taxpayers.

**CONSENT AGENDA DEFINED:**

All matters listed on tonight's Consent Agenda are to be considered as one vote by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion. Any resolutions listed on the agenda with \*\* next to their respective number are to be considered as part of the Consent Agenda. There will be no discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

#066-04-10-13\*\*           Accepting Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2013

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MINUTES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** THAT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES BE AND ARE HEREBY ACCEPTED AND FILED:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

March 13, 2013

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter			X			
Mayor Lowande						

#067-04-10-13\*\*           Approve Payment of Vouchers

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS**

**WHEREAS**, The Chief Financial Officer has certified and submitted a consolidated bill list for the payment of claims; and

**WHEREAS**, all vouchers listed herewith have been encumbered and sufficient funds are available for payment; and

**WHEREAS**, the required signatures of the Department Head or the Committee Chair, the Finance Chairperson, the Vendor, and the Chief Financial Officer, have all been obtained on each voucher on the attached list.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg, that the voucher list submitted is hereby approved for payment in the total amount of \$734,413.59.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter			X			
Mayor Lowande						

#068-04-10-13\*\*           Accept Monthly Reports

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MONTHLY REPORTS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the following reports be and are hereby received and filed:

Investment Report	February, 2013
Finance Report	February, 2013
Report of the Tax Collector	February, 2013
Report of the Sewer Administrator`	February, 2013

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter			X			
Mayor Lowande						

**NON-CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS:**

#069-04-10-13 Support Click It or Ticket Mobilization - May 20-June 2, 2013  
**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE *CLICK IT OR TICKET* MOBILIZATION OF MAY 20-JUNE 2, 2013.**

**WHEREAS**, the most effective devise for preventing deaths and injuries in motor vehicle crashes remains the seatbelt; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey will participate in the nationwide *Click It or Ticket* safety belt mobilization from May 20-June 2, 2013 in an effort to raise awareness and increase safety belt usage through a combination of enforcement and education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Highway Traffic Safety has set a goal of increasing the safety belt usage rate in the state from the current level of 88.57% to 90%; and

**WHEREAS**, a further increase in safety belt usage in New Jersey will save lives on our roadways;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg declare its support for the *Click It or Ticket* safety belt mobilization both locally and nationally from May 20-June 2, 2013 and pledges to increase awareness of the mobilization and the benefits of safety belt usage.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar	X		X			
Council Member Ludas		X	X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter			X			
Mayor Lowande						

Administrator Jawidzik explained that this is a grant we are applying for; Council Member Sussman asked what does it mean to “support” the Click It or Ticket Mobilization; Council Member Kostbar explained that it means we are in favor of and support it, with Administrator Jawidzik adding that we need Council to approve the resolution in order to get the grant money.

#070-04-10-13 Approve Special Event Permit – Presbyterian Church: Spring Fair  
**APPROVE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT**

**WHEREAS**, application has been made by the Jamesburg Presbyterian Church for a Special Event Permit to host a Spring Fair; and

**WHEREAS**, the event is to be held June 1, 2013 from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM, with the rain date being June 2, 2013 from 12:00 PM until 6:00 PM; and

**WHEREAS**, the appropriate fees have been submitted with the application.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that a Special Event Permit be and is hereby approved for the Jamesburg Presbyterian Church to host a Spring Fair in accordance with the details as submitted on the attached application.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar			X			
Council Member Ludas	X		X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Carpenter		X	X			
Mayor Lowande						

Council Member Taylor asked why it is necessary for Council to approve a social affair permit when the event is being held on private property; Administrator Jawidzik explained that we have an ordinance in place that requires Council approval before issuing a permit for a social affair permit. .

#071-04-10-13 Support S-1896/A-1503 Sharing Burden of Property Assessment Appeal Refunds

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING S-1896/A-1503 SHARING THE BURDEN OF PROPERTY ASSESSMENT APPEAL REFUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, when County Tax Board appeals are granted the municipality must reimburse the property taxpayer 100% of the appealed tax levy, which includes the municipal, school, county and any special districts tax; and

**WHEREAS**, the municipal tax collector makes the adjustment from the appeal as a credit on the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter tax bill resulting in the municipality's fund balance for the preceding year to diminished , if not completely depleted; and

**WHEREAS**, a League of Municipalities' survey measured the extent to which residents have filed and won tax appeals in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, one hundred fifty (150) municipalities, representing both large and small municipalities in all 21 counties, that participated in the survey reported property value declines of more than \$87,900,000, which resulted from 19,788 tax appeals filed in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, those responding to the survey indicated that 13,760 appeals were filed in 2009, compared to 19,788 in 2010, representing an increase of 43.7%; and

**WHEREAS**, a municipality often experiences an increase in tax appeals because it has conducted a revaluation, however, only 5 of the 150 municipalities, which participated in our survey, indicated that their 2010 appeals resulted from revaluations; and

**WHEREAS**, as a way of comparison, 23 of the participating municipalities conducted revaluations in 2009, when fewer tax appeals were presented to the County Tax Boards; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 spike in appeals should be attributed to the economic down-turn, which lowered property values and placed increased stress on the income of homeowners, all around our Garden State; and

**WHEREAS**, the survey also indicated that in 2010 the various County Tax Boards have granted average property value reductions of close to \$5,000, per appeal; and

**WHEREAS**, fifty-six percent of those responding indicated that the successful tax appeals would have an impact on fund balances and place additional pressures on local officials during 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the reductions, which were granted by County Tax Boards in 2010, likely had a multiplier in subsequent years when neighbors learned of their neighbor's tax reduction; and

**WHEREAS**, successful tax appeals have a three-fold negative impact on municipal budgets. First, the municipality, as the collector of taxes for the School district, county and special districts, must fund the full cost of the legal defense of the assessment. Second, since State law guarantees to the county and the school district 100% of their levies, the municipality bears the full cost of any re-imbursements resulting from the appeal (as well as the full burden for any uncollected taxes). Third, the end result will be a further decline in the property tax base used to support Municipalities, County governments and School systems; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the revenue limitations that have been placed on all levels of local government by the Legislature (2% cap), such declining values will compound and add additional stress to local public officials, as they grapple with the issues confronting the tax paying public; and

**WHEREAS**, Senator Bucco, Assemblyman Carroll and Assemblyman Bucco have recently introduced S-1896/A-1503, which requires fire districts, school districts, and county governments to share in burden of property assessment appeal refunds;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the governing body of the Borough of Jamesburg in the County of Middlesex, hereby urge the swift passage and signing of S-1896/A-1503; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to New Jersey Governor Christopher Christie, to Senate President Stephen Sweeney, to Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, to our State Senator, to our two Representatives in the General Assembly, and to the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Busco						X
Council Member Kostbar			X			
Council Member Ludas			X			
Council Member Sussman			X			
Council Member Taylor	X		X			
Council President Carpenter		X	X			
Mayor Lowande						

**COUNCILMATIC COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Council Member Taylor

Council Member Taylor explained that the budget hearing has covered his report, but added that although the budget process was difficult, he would like it to be noted that the best interest of everyone in the community was kept in mind.

- EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Council Member Sussman

Council Member Sussman reported that there have been no Board of Education meetings to report on. He also expressed his sympathy on the passing of Mr. Harold Berger.

- POLICE COMMITTEE  
Council Member Kostbar

Council Member Kostbar reported that March had been a quiet month for the Police Department. He advised that Officer Anthony Mendoza will be leaving as he has accepted a job in Bridgewater. Currently, applications for a Class II Special Officer are being reviewed in light of this position now being vacant. Council Member Kostbar also reported that the railroad tracks at the intersection of Forsgate and East Railroad Avenue are scheduled to be fixed April 18<sup>th</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup>, which is expected to cause a traffic buildup during those two days but will be well worth it once completed. The new police vehicle has been ordered and should arrive sometime in May, as well as, the new guns which have been ordered also. Council Member Kostbar added that he attended the swearing-in ceremony of our former prosecutor, Chris Rafano and that he also attended the Transportation Meeting held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, in which nothing of impact to Jamesburg was discussed.

- PERSONNEL COMMITTEE  
Council Member Ludas

Council Member Ludas reported that there are no personnel requirements at this time. The Land Use Board has been meeting regularly concerning new businesses moving into town. A SERV meeting was held April 8<sup>th</sup>, in which it was noted that several trees and branches have fallen into the Church Street creek, causing water buildup. Council Member Ludas explained that she has contacted the County office who has been working on clearing the creek. The County advised that that are waiting on new equipment and will be in Jamesburg to clear the creek to prevent future flooding as soon as that arrives.

- PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
Council Member Busco

Council Member Busco is absent but Council Member Ludas read his report: DPW spring and summer equipment has been tuned up and repaired and ready to do maintenance. Also, Council Member Busco has been given a lot of praise for the DPW's efficient snow removal during the past storms.

- PUBLIC EVENTS COMMITTEE  
Council President Carpenter

Council Member Carpenter reported that the Memorial Day Parade Committee met two weeks ago to continue discussing the parade. Donations are coming in and participants are being organized. More details will come as the parade draws closer.

The Fall Festival Committee will have a meeting in May to begin organizing for the event. Vendor packets, along with, donation letters are being worked on and will be sent out in the coming weeks. Ride, vendors and entertainment will be discussed in the next few months as well.

The library will be having their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala this Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend as it is promised to be a wonderful event to support the library. All money raised will go towards purchasing books and funding programs for the library.

- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Mayor Marlene Lowande

No Report.

- ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT  
Denise Jawdzik

No Report.

- MAYOR'S REPORT  
Mayor Marlene Lowande

Mayor Lowande reported that the Jamesburg Fire Department will be hosting a Health Fair on May 11<sup>th</sup>. She also noted that the Easter Egg Hunt was a great success, as everyone who attended had a great time and the children who participated enjoyed hunting for the over 2,500 eggs that were out there.

**2<sup>nd</sup> PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – ANY ITEM - EXCLUDES ORDINANCES (they have their own public hearing):** Members of the public wishing to address the Mayor and Borough Council must approach the podium and state their name and address for the record. There is a five (5) minute time limit for all comments and questions per citizen.

Motion Open to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Carpenter

Seconded By: Sussman

All in Favor

Wendy Barbely – 118 Perrineville Road: Mrs. Barbely extended thanks to Mr. Joseph Intravartola and the Jamesburg DPW for flushing out her sewer lines and following up to make sure everything was taken care of. She noted that this service would be hard to come by in bigger towns and is grateful for the quick action and attention to detail that everyone here at the Borough provides.

Tom Van de Sande – 2 Fernwood Lane: Mr. Van de Sande requested that at the May meeting a copy of all committee members and meetings be provided to the public.

He also asked why the Council President sits in the corner and not the center, next to the Mayor; Mayor Lowande and Council President Carpenter both responded. Council Member Kostbar clarified that if Mayor Lowande is absent for a meeting, Council President Carpenter would then sit in the Mayor's place and preside over the meeting. Mr. Van de Sande asked if a name plate could be purchased that denotes the title of "council president", Council Member Kostbar and Council President Carpenter responded that there is no need for that. Council Member Kostbar also explained there are no set meeting times for the committee meetings and Mr. Van de Sande cannot attend the meetings as they are not open to the public. Mr. Van de Sande asked the attorney to inform the council of the law regarding attendance of and publication of the committee meetings. Attorney Raffetto answered that the committee meetings are not open to the public unless there is a quorum of the council present. A committee meeting is not required it is advisory so under the Open Public Meeting's Act it is not required to be noticed or open to the public. Mr. Van de Sande asked for a list of who is on the committee's; Mayor and Council responded that it is believed to be on the Borough website, and if it is not it will be. Mr. Van de Sande commented that he does not agree with the interpretation of the committee meetings; Council Member Kostbar answered it is not interpretation it is the law.

Mr. Van de Sande asked what other assets are available to sell within the Borough; Administrator Jawdzik responded.

Mr. Van de Sande asked if the Mayor sets the salary of the Borough Animal Control; Mayor Lowande answered.

Motion to Close to Public Comment:

Proposed By: Sussman

Seconded By: Kostbar

All in Favor

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Proposed By: Kostbar

Seconded By: Sussman  
All in favor.

**TIME OF ADJOURNMENT:**                      7:36 PM

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Tanya Pannucci  
Acting Municipal Clerk  
Borough of Jamesburg