SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 12, 2013, 7:05 P.M. PUBLIC MEETING

<u>CALL TO ORDER:</u> Mayor Anesh called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Anesh read the sunshine statement and announced that same is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met with adequate notice of this meeting having been provided to the Borough's two official newspapers and also published on the Borough's website.

The roll call was administered by Clerk Antonides as follows:

COUNCIL	Present	Absent	Late
Councilman Barletta	х		
Councilman Bengivenga	х		
Councilman Diana	х		
Councilman McConville	Х		
Councilman White	Х		
Council President Rusnak	Х		
Mayor Anesh	Х		
ALSO PRESENT			
Administrator Cullen	х		
Clerk Antonides	х		
Attorney Rizzo	х		
Engineer Miller	X		

Flag Salute: was led by Mayor Anesh and Councilman White led the invocation.

Approve Council Minutes:

October 21, 2013 - Agenda October 21, 2013 – Public October 21, 2013 – Executive Session

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			х				
Councilman Bengivenga	X		X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville			X				
Councilman White			X				
Council President Rusnak		x	X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

Public Comment For Agenda Items Only:

Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Paul McCullen of Walnut Street questioned resolutions #13-348, 360 and 361 asking if these are for applied credit or direct refunds and we are the dollar amounts. Mr. Cullen explained and stated they are for refunds. Mr. McCullen said he hopes that the Council in the future will consider a broad base approach by considering doing a reevaluation of all properties. Mayor Anesh further explained that this is for the old Motorola Building. Mayor Anesh advised that the possibility of a revalue has been something on his radar for some time now.

Ms. Debbie Boyle of Van Fleet advised that there is a legislative Bill pending (S-2840 she believes) that would allow for all entities dealing with these tax returns to have some assistance by the school boards, counties, fire districts, etc.

Libby from The Observer inquired about the status of the parking sign ordinance. Mayor Anesh advised that it has been put on hold as we have been considering various options i.e. parking stickers. With no further comments made from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 2013-344

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF 2011, 2012 AND 2013 TAX APPEALS FILED BY FACEFIELD, LLP-RACEWAY PETROLEUM, FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 1309 WEST 7TH STREET AND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 3, LOT 33.01, ON THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD TAX ASSESSMENT MAPS

WHEREAS, Facefield LLP-Raceway Petroleum (hereinafter referred to as "Taxpayer") is the owner of the Property known as 1309 West 7th Street and identified as Block 3, Lot 33.01, on the Borough of South Plainfield's Tax Assessment Maps ("Property"); and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$243,400 for all years under appeal; and

WHEREAS, Taxpayer filed appeals of the 2011, 2012 and 2013 tax assessments in the Tax Court of the State of New Jersey under docket numbers 011749-2011, 011959-2012 and 013785-2013; and

WHEREAS, a proposed settlement of the aforesaid tax appeals was negotiated between Taxpayer and the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Attorney as set forth in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the proposed Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto, the aforesaid tax appeals are to be resolved as follows:

- The 2011 original assessment in the amount of \$243,400 shall be affirmed and remain unchanged;
- The 2012 original assessment in the amount of \$243,400 shall be affirmed and remain unchanged;
- The 2013 original assessment in the amount of \$243,400 shall be affirmed and remain unchanged;
- The 2014 tax assessment of the Property shall be set by the Borough Tax Assessor at a total tax assessment of \$225,000.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessor agrees that it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the aforesaid tax appeals pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth above and in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto based on market conditions as well as the uncertainty and costs associated with continued litigation; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid settlement is based on the specific and identifiable facts and circumstances pertaining to the Property and has no general application to other properties within the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield having reviewed and considered the pending tax appeals and the proposed settlement thereof agree and confirm it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the tax appeals as set forth herein and in the Stipulation of Settlement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council make this settlement with the Taxpayer without prejudice to its dealing with any other South Plainfield taxpayer's request for tax assessment reduction; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council leave the allocation between land and improvements of the aforesaid 2014 tax assessment reduction to the Borough Tax Assessor's discretion with the direction that same be set so as to be most beneficial to the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$225,000 total tax assessment for the 2014 tax year for Block 3, Lot 33.01 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 2. The Borough Attorney is authorized to execute on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield the attached Stipulation of Settlement pertaining to the tax appeals filed by Facefield LLP-Raceway Petroleum under docket numbers 011749-2011, 011959-2012 and 013785-2013 for the Property known as 1309 West 7th Street and identified as Block 3, Lot 33.01 on the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessment Maps which provides that Taxpayer's 2011, 2012 and 2013 tax appeals shall be affirmed and remain unchanged; which provides that the 2014 tax assessment shall be set by the Tax Assessor at a total tax assessment of \$225,000; and which provides that both parties agree to waive any rights they may have to file an appeal for the 2014 tax year except for the purpose of obtaining a Judgment to implement, enforce and/or confirm the agreed upon assessment of \$225,000 for the 2014 tax year.
- 3. This settlement shall be without prejudice to the Borough's dealings with any other taxpayer's request or appeal for a tax assessment reduction.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			х				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		х	х				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF DOREEN CRINCOLI TO INSTRUCT "SINGERCISE CLASSES" AT THE SENIOR CENTER ON WEDNESDAYS AT A RATE OF \$30.00 PER HALF HOUR OF INSTRUCTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, New Jersey that at the recommendation of the Senior Center Director, authorization is hereby given for employing Doreen Crincoli to instruct "Singercise Classes" at the Senior Center on Wednesdays at a rate of \$30.00 per half hour of instruction with no benefits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Tree Olano, Senior Center Director
- 2. Glenn Cullen, Chief Financial Officer
- 3. Marie Dudek, Payroll

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			х				
Councilman Bengivenga			х				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 13-346 AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF \$28.00 TO IRENE BUTRICO FOR A SENIOR CENTER TRIP TO THE SANDS ON OCTOBER 23, 2013

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes a refund of \$28.00 to the below senior for the Sands Trip:

Irene Butrico 2620 Linden Avenue South Plainfield, NJ 07080

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Finance Office hereby has approval to release the aforementioned refunds.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 2013-347

Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Extension January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, Borough was approved for a Municipal Alliance grant for the January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 grant term; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse has extended the 2013 grant term until June 30, 2014, in order to transition the grant to a fiscal year rather than calendar year cycle; and

WHEREAS, funding has been made available to South Plainfield Municipal Alliance in the amount of 50% of its approved 2013 grant total for the six-month extension period of January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014, contingent upon meeting the 25% Cash Match and 75% In-Kind Match grant requirement for the extension funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Plainfield Borough Council does hereby authorize the submission of the grant extension for the South Plainfield Municipal Alliance grant period January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$ 31,165.50
Cash Match	\$ 8,316.00
In-Kind	\$ 50,250.00

The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 2013-348 AUTHORIZING A REFUND OF A TAX APPEAL JUDGMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,164.56 FOR ALFIERI – 550 HADLEY ROAD ASSOCIATES OF 550 HADLEY ROAD

WHEREAS, the following list of taxpayers have filed appeals with the State Tax Court and have received judgments reducing their assessments:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the following appeals be refunded.

OWNER/ADDRESS	<u>BLC</u>	<u>OCK</u>	LOT	YEAR	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Alfieri-550 Hadley Road Assoc, LP 550 Hadley Road	528.01	45.05	2012	\$10,016.04	
South Plainfield, NJ 07080			2011	\$11,148.52	
Make check payable to:					
Alfieri-550 Hadley Road Assoc, LP					
Zipp & Tannenbaum, L.L.C.					
166 Gatzmer Avenue					
Jamesburg, NJ 08831					

\$21,164.56 *

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue a check(s) in the amount(s) as mentioned above.

Total

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			х				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	X		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			Х				
	VOTE:	6	0				
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION No. 13-349

AUTHORIZING 2013 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$145,000.00 FOR THE CURRENT FUND PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits appropriation transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year and the first three months of the fiscal year, for the purposes specified and in excess of sums appropriated in the Budget; and

WHEREAS, such transfers must be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the governing body.

CURRENT FUND			
FROM:			AMOUNT
3-01-30-425-001-101	Salary & Wage Adjustment	O&E	5,000.00
3-01-20-155-000-221	Legal	O&E	5,000.00
3-01-31-435-002-555	Street Lights	O&E	20,000.00
3-01-20-150-000-101	Assessing	S&W	6,000.00
3-01-23-210-000-655	Other Insurance	O&E	18,000.00
3-01-23-220-000-601	Health Benefits	O&E	45,000.00
3-01-25-265-003-581	Fire Service Charges	O&E	5,000.00
3-01-31-420-001-555	Electric	O&E	15,000.00
3-01-30-410-001-535	Municipal Support	O&E	9,000.00
3-01-36-472-000-675	SSI	Statutory	17,000.00
Total FROM:			145,000.00
TO:			AMOUNT
3-01-20-145-000-255	Collection of Taxes	0 & E	5,000.00
3-01-20-150-000-221		0 & E	5,000.00
3-01-25-240-001-475	8	0 & E	10,000.00
3-01-25-252-000-431		0 & E	2,000.00
3-01-20-140-000-204		0 & E	25,000.00
3-01-25-265-002-204		0 & E	7,000.00
3-01-28-370-001-401		0 & E	7,500.00
3-01-28-370-002-236	Office on Aging	0 & E	7,000.00
3-01-28-370-003-535		O & E	2,000.00
3-01-30-420-000-235	Celebrations & Events	O & E	4,000.00
3-01-26-290-002-235		0 & E	20,000.00
3-01-26-315-000-401		0 & E	15,500.00
3-01-32-465-001-545	Landfill	0 & E	25,000.00
3-01-25-250-000-204	911	0 & E	10,000.00
Total TO:			145,000.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfers be approved in

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 13-350

AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH JEN ELECTRIC INC. FOR THE REPAIR OF AN EXISTING TRAFFIC LIGHT AT THE INTERSECTION OF MAPLE AND LAKEVIEW AVENUES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$11,470.60

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes a contract with Jen Electric Inc. for the repair of an existing traffic light at the intersection of Maple and Lakeview Avenues in an amount not to exceed \$11,470.60.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

AUTHORIZING THE REJECTION OF A BID RECEIVED FROM SHEFFIELD ELECTRIC FOR A COAH REFURBISHMENT PROJECT LOCATED AT 210 DELMORE AVENUE DUE TO THE BIDDER HAVING INSUFFICIENT CREDENTIALS PURSUANT TO NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby rejects the bid received from Sheffield Electric of P.O. Box 5039 Hillside NJ, 07205 for a COAH refurbishment project located at 210 Delmore Avenue due to the bidder having insufficient credentials pursuant to New Jersey Open Public Contracts Law.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	х		х				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 13-352

AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF ALL PERMIT FEES FOR THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD LION'S CLUB DINNER WITH SANTA EVENT TO BE HELD AT THE SENIOR CENTER ON DECEMBER 21, 2013

BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Lions Club is holding a Dinner with Santa event at the Senior Center on December 21, and as such has requested a waiver of all permit fees;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield hereby authorizes the waiver of all permit fees for the aforementioned event;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded as follows:

- 1. Municipal Clerk
- 2. Chief Financial Officer
- 3. Fire Official

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

AUTHORIZING THE STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF WEAPONS, AMMO AND PROTECTIVE HEAD AND THROAT GEAR FROM LAWMEN SUPPLY COMPANY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,828.38

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes a NJ State Contract purchase of weapons, ammo and protective head and throat gear from Lawmen Supply Company in an amount not to exceed \$4,828.38 pursuant to NJ State Contract Numbers A81295.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. James Parker, Chief of Police

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 13-354

AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ALUMINUM SIGN POSTS FOR CROSSWALKS FROM TRAFFIC SAFETY SERVICE OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500.00

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, in the State of New Jersey, that it hereby authorizes the purchase of aluminum sign posts for crosswalks from Traffic Safety Service of South Plainfield, NJ in an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			Х				
Councilman McConville	Х		Х				
Councilman White		х	х				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 13-355

AUTHORIZING ESI TRANSITION SERVICES FROM INSURANCE BUYERS COUNCIL IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,500.00

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes ESI transition services from Insurance Buyers Council in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	Х		х				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

AUTHORIZING THE STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF PORTABLE RADIOS FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$8,656.80

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes a NJ State Contract purchase of portable radios from Motorola Solutions for the Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$8,656.80 pursuant to NJ State Contract Numbers A83909.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. Fire Chief

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		x	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 13-357

AUTHORIZING A SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER CONTRACT WITH TACTICAL PUBLIC SAFETY, LLC FOR MAINTENANCE FROM AUGUST 1, 2013 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2014 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$21,336.00

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that it hereby authorizes a sole source provider contract with Tactical Public Safety, LLC of 1036 Industrial Drive in West Berlin, NJ 08091 for maintenance services from August 1, 2013 through January 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$21,336.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

- 1. Glenn Cullen, CFO
- 2. Amy Antonides, Municipal Clerk
- 3. James Parker, Chief of Police

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			х				
Councilman Bengivenga			Х				
Councilman Diana			Х				
Councilman McConville	Х		Х				
Councilman White		х	х				
Council President Rusnak			х				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 2013-358 A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE PROPOSED WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT (WQM) PLAN AMENDMENT ENTITLED: MIDDLESEX COUNTY FUTURE WASTEWATER SERVICE AREA MAP

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield desires for the orderly development of wastewater facilities within the Lower Raritan-Middlesex County WQM area; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) requires that proposed wastewater treatment and conveyance facilities and wastewater treatment service areas, as well as related subjects, be in conformance with an approved WQM plan; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP has established the WQM plan amendment procedure as the method of incorporating unplanned facilities into a WQM plan; and

WHEREAS, a proposed WQM plan amendment noticed in the New Jersey Register on May 6, 2013 for a Proposed Amendment to the Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Quality Management Plan entitled: Middlesex County Future Wastewater Service Area Map has been prepared by the Middlesex County Office of Planning Division of Comprehensive Planning and the Environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 6th day of May, 2013, by the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield that:

- The Borough of South Plainfield Council requests that the proposed Wastewater Management Plan be revised to include the parcels identified in Attachment #1, as being within the proposed sewer service area. These areas are currently shown on the Middlesex County Future Wastewater Service Area Map as "Areas Removed from MCUA Future SSA." The Borough recommends that this designation be changed to "Unchanged MCUA Future SSA (Year 2000)", as shown in the legend of the County map. Sewer service to the subject parcels will further the development and economic goals of the Borough as expressed in its Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance and these areas should remain in the sewer service area.
- 2. With the exception noted above, the Borough of South Plainfield hereby consents to the remainder of the amendment entitled Middlesex County Future Wastewater Service Area Map and publicly noticed on May 6, 2013, prepared by the Middlesex County Office of Planning Division of Comprehensive Planning and the Environment, for the purpose of its incorporation into the applicable WQM plan(s);
- 3. This consent with the noted exception shall be submitted to the NJDEP in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.4 and the Middlesex County Office of Planning Division of Comprehensive Planning and the Environment.

	•		U U	-		•	
COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			х				
Councilman Bengivenga			х				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	х		х				
Councilman White		X	х				
Council President Rusnak			х				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION No. 13-359 AUTHORIZING 2013 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00 FOR THE SEWER FUND PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 permits appropriation transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year and the first three months of the fiscal year, for the purposes specified and in excess of sums appropriated in the Budget; and

WHEREAS, such transfers must be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the governing body.

Sewer Utility			
FROM:			AMOUNT
3-07-55-515-002-661	Sewer O&E	O&E	25,000.00
Total FROM:			25,000.00
TO:			AMOUNT
3-07-55-515-002-101	Sewer S&W	S & W	25,000.00
Total TO:			25,000.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfers be approved in

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			х				
Councilman Bengivenga			х				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	Х		х				
Councilman White		X	х				
Council President Rusnak			х				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION 2013-360

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF 2010, 2011, 2012 AND 2013 TAX APPEALS FILED BY THE REALTY ASSOCIATES FUND VI, LP, FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 601-629 MONTROSE AVENUE AND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 420, LOT 11.01, ON THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD TAX ASSESSMENT MAPS

WHEREAS, The Realty Associates Fund VI, LP (hereinafter referred to as "Taxpayer") is the owner of the property known as 601-629 Montrose Avenue and identified as Block 420, Lot 11.01, on the Borough of South Plainfield's Tax Assessment Maps ("Property"); and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$2,415,600 for 2010 and 2011; and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$2,440,600 for 2012; and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$2,450,600 for 2013; and

WHEREAS, Taxpayer filed appeals of the 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 tax assessments in the Tax Court of the State of New Jersey under docket numbers 006372-2010, 000350-2011, 006228-2012 and 006080-2013; and

WHEREAS, a proposed settlement of the aforesaid tax appeals was negotiated between Taxpayer and the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Attorney as set forth in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Appraiser, Russ Sterling, MAI, opined that the Borough was not able to defend the assessments for the 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 tax year under appeal and recommended that the settlement be approved and therefore, this proposed settlement is reasonable and reflects the correct market values for the Property which was over assessed for Tax Years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the proposed Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto, the aforesaid tax appeals are to be resolved as follows:

- The 2010 tax appeal shall be withdrawn by Taxpayer;
- The 2011 original tax assessment in the amount of \$2,415,600 shall be reduced to \$1,973,750 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2011;
- The 2012 original assessment in the amount of \$2,440,600 shall be reduced to \$1,891,575 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2012;
- The 2013 original assessment in the amount of \$2,450,600 shall be reduced to \$2,025,975 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2013;
- Taxpayer has agreed to waive statutory interests provided the subject refunds are paid within sixty (60) days from the date of entry of the Judgment;
- Refunds regarding overpayments shall be made payable to "Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman and Leonard, P.A. in Trust for Plaintiff, The Realty Associates Fund VI, LP" and forwarded to Carl A. Rizzo, Esq. at Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman and Leanard, P.A., Court Plaza North, 25 Main Street, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601 within 60 days from the date of entry of Judgment.
- The 2014 total tax assessment of the Property shall be set by the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessor in the amount of \$2,025,975.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessor agrees that it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the aforesaid tax appeals pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth above and in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto based on market conditions as well as the uncertainty and costs associated with continued litigation; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid settlement is based on the specific and identifiable facts and circumstances pertaining to the Property and has no general application to other properties within the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield having reviewed and considered the pending tax appeals and the proposed settlement thereof agree and confirm it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the tax appeals as set forth herein and in the Stipulation of Settlement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council make this settlement with the Taxpayer without prejudice to its dealing with any other South Plainfield taxpayer's request for tax assessment reduction; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council leave the allocation between land and improvements of the aforesaid tax assessment reduction to the Borough Tax Assessor's discretion with the direction that same be set so as to be most beneficial to the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$1,973,750 total tax assessment reduction for the 2011 tax year for Block 420, Lot 11.01 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 2. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$1,891,575 total tax assessment reduction for the 2012 tax year for Block 420, Lot 11.01 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 3. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$2,025,975 total tax assessment reduction for the 2013 tax year for Block 420, Lot 11.01 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 4. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$2,025,975 total tax assessment reduction for the 2014 tax year for Block 420, Lot 11.01 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.

- 5. The Borough Attorney is authorized to execute on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield the attached Stipulation of Settlement pertaining to the tax appeals filed by The Realty Associates Fund VI, LP under Docket Nos.: 006372-2010, 000350-2011, 006228-2012 and 006080-2013 for the property known as 601-629 Montrose Avenue and identified as Block 420, Lot 11.01 on the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessment Maps which withdraws the tax appeal for Tax Years 2010; which reduces the 2011 total tax assessment on the Property from \$2,415,600 to \$1,973,750; which reduces the 2012 total tax assessment on the Property from \$2,440,600 to \$1,891,575; which reduces the 2013 total tax assessment on the Property from \$2,450,600 to \$2,025,975; which provides that Taxpayer agrees to waive statutory interest of any refund or overpayment due provided the refund check is paid within sixty (60) days from the issuance of the Judgment; which provides that any refunds shall be made payable to "Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A. in Trust for Plaintiff, The Realty Associates Fund VI, LP" and forwarded to counsel for Taxpayer within 60 days from the date of entry of Judgment; and which provides that the 2014 total assessment of the Property shall be set by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$2,025,975; and which provides that either party may file a tax appeal for the 2014 tax year in the event the 2014 assessment is not adjusted to \$2,025,975.
- 6. This settlement shall be without prejudice to the Borough's dealings with any other taxpayer's request or appeal for a tax assessment reduction.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			X				
Councilman Bengivenga			X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville	Х		X				
Councilman White		X	X				
Council President Rusnak			X				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF 2010, 2011 and 2012 TAX APPEALS FILED BY WELLS OPERATING PARTNERSHIP, L.P./WELLS OPER. PART. LP/BY FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS 1111 DURHAM AVENUE AND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 550, LOT 3 ON THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD TAX ASSESSMENT MAPS

WHEREAS, Wells Operating Partnership, L.P. (hereinafter referred to as "Taxpayer") is the owner of the property known as 1111 Durham Avenue and identified as Block 550, Lot 3 on the Borough of South Plainfield's Tax Assessment Maps ("Property"); and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$7,975,000 for 2010; and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$7,975,000 for 2011; and

WHEREAS, the assessed value of the Property was set at \$7,975,000 for 2012; and

WHEREAS, Taxpayer filed appeals of the 2010, 2011 and 2012 tax assessments in the Tax Court of the State of New Jersey under docket numbers 010964-2010, 005324-2011 and 007856-2012; and

WHEREAS, a proposed settlement of the aforesaid tax appeals was negotiated between Taxpayer and the Borough Tax Assessor and Borough Tax Attorney as set forth in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Appraiser, Russ Sterling, MAI, opined that the Borough was not able to defend the assessments for the 2010, 2011 and 2012 tax years under appeal and recommended that the settlement be approved and therefore, this proposed settlement is reasonable and reflects the correct market values for the Property which was over assessed for all three years under appeal; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the proposed Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto, the aforesaid tax appeals are to be resolved as follows:

• The 2010 original assessment in the amount of \$7,975,000 shall be reduced to a total tax

assessment of \$5,008,300 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2010;

- The 2011 original assessment in the amount of \$7,975,000 shall be reduced to a total tax assessment of \$4,560,400 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2011;
- The 2012 original assessment in the amount of \$7,975,000 shall be reduced to a total tax assessment of \$3,603,000 and the Borough of South Plainfield shall provide Taxpayer with a corresponding tax refund for 2012;
- Taxpayer has agreed to waive statutory interest provided the subject refunds are paid within sixty (60) days from the date of the entry of the Tax Court Judgment; and
- Refunds regarding overpayments shall be made payable to "Wells Operating Partnership, LP/Wells Oper. Part. LP/BY, as Plaintiff and The Davidson Legal Group, LLC, as Attorneys for Plaintiff" without any offsets or deductions for any unpaid taxes or municipal charges for tax years subsequent to the Tax Years covered by this settlement; and forwarded to The Davidson Legal Group, LLC within 60 days from the date of the entry of the Tax Court Judgment.

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessor agrees that it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the aforesaid tax appeals pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth above and in the Stipulation of Settlement annexed hereto based on market conditions as well as the uncertainty and costs associated with continued litigation; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid settlement is based on the specific and identifiable facts and circumstances pertaining to the Property and has no general application to other properties within the Borough of South Plainfield; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield having reviewed and considered the pending tax appeals and the proposed settlement thereof agree and confirm it is in the best interests of the Borough of South Plainfield to resolve the tax appeals as set forth herein and in the Stipulation of Settlement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council make this settlement with the Taxpayer without prejudice to its dealing with any other South Plainfield taxpayer's request for tax assessment reduction; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council leave the allocation between land and improvements of the aforesaid tax assessment reductions to the Borough Tax Assessor's discretion with the direction that same be set so as to be most beneficial to the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$5,008,300 total tax assessment reduction for the 2010 tax year for Block 550, Lot 3 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 2. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$4,560,400 total tax assessment reduction for the 2011 tax year for Block 550, Lot 3 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 3. The Borough Tax Assessor is hereby directed to establish the allocation between land and improvements of a \$3,603,000 total tax assessment reduction for the 2012 tax year for Block 550, Lot 3 which is most beneficial to the Borough and advise the Borough Attorney of that allocation.
- 4. The Borough Attorney is authorized to execute on behalf of the Borough of South Plainfield the attached

Stipulation of Settlement pertaining to the tax appeals filed by Wells Operating Partnership, LP/Wells Oper. Part. LP/BY under Docket Nos.: 010964-2010, 005324-2011 and 007856-2012 for the Property known as 1111 Durham Avenue and identified as Block 550, Lot 3 on the Borough of South Plainfield Tax Assessment Maps which reduces the 2010 total tax assessment on the Property from \$7,975,000 to \$5,008,300; which reduces the 2011 total tax assessment on the Property from \$7,975,000 to \$5,008,300; which reduces the 2011 total tax assessment on the Property from \$7,975,000 to \$4,560,400; which reduces the 2012 total tax assessment on the Property from \$7,975,000 to \$4,560,400; which reduces the 2012 total tax assessment on the Property from \$7,975,000 to \$3,603,000; which further provides that Taxpayer agrees to waive statutory interest on any refund or overpayment due provided the refund check is paid within sixty (60) days from the issuance of the Tax Court Judgment; and which further provides that any refunds shall be made payable to "Wells Operating Partnership, LP/Wells Oper. Part. LP/BY, as Plaintiff and The Davidson Legal Group, LLC, as Attorneys for Plaintiff" and forwarded to The Davidson Legal Group, LLC without any offsets or deductions for any unpaid taxes or municipal charges for tax years subsequent to the Tax Years covered by this settlement within 60 days from the date of the entry of the Tax Court Judgment.

5. This settlement shall be without prejudice to the Borough's dealings with any other taxpayer's request or appeal for a tax assessment reduction.

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta			Х				
Councilman Bengivenga			х				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville	Х		х				
Councilman White		х	х				
Council President Rusnak			х				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

CORRESPONDANCE

- Recreation Commission Minutes June 17, 2013 & September 10, 2013
- Traffic Safety Advisory Commission Minutes September 25, 2013
- Recycling Monthly Report September, 2013
- Environmental Commission Minutes September 11, 2013
- Environmental Commission Monthly Report October, 2013
- Code Enforcement Monthly Report October, 2013
- Board of Adjustment Minutes August 6, 2013, August 20, 2013, September 10, 2013

COUNCIL	MOTION	2 ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta	Х		х				
Councilman Bengivenga		X	X				
Councilman Diana			X				
Councilman McConville			Х				
Councilman White			х				
Council President Rusnak			х				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

Current Fund	2-01	0.00
urrent Fund	3-01	413,338.80
Pool Utility	2-26	0.00
Pool Utility	3-26	1,875.00
Sewer Utility	2-07	0.00
Sewer Utility	3-07	1,204,008.26
Sewer Utility Capital	C-08	0.00
General Capital	C-04	80,811.48
Pool Capital	C-27	0.00
Election Account	E-18	27,980.00
Grant Fund	G-02	13,238.65
Dog Trust	T-12	241.80
Treasurers Trust	T-13	14,145.80
Recreation Trust	T-14	20,498.14
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$1,776,107.33

COUNCIL	MOTION	2^{ND}	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	RECUSE
Councilman Barletta	х		х				
Councilman Bengivenga			х				
Councilman Diana			х				
Councilman McConville			х				
Councilman White		х	х				
Council President Rusnak			х				
		VOTE:	6	0			
Mayor Anesh – TIE ONLY							

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Borough Attorney Paul Rizzo, Esq. - had no report for this evening.

<u>Administrator Cullen</u> – updated the Council on the status of the retaining walls that were put in by New Brunswick Avenue saying how pleased the residents are. On another note, Mr. Culled advised that he received a letter from the New Jersey DOT pertaining to the red light camera and basically it appears the state is not going to remove these red light camera during the full term of their pilot program.

<u>Engineer Miller</u> – gave a status update on the 2013 road improvement projects saying that they are all pretty much done for the year. Some striping is taking place now. We are also trying to take care of the traffic loop detectors for Loden and Sampson Avenues. Montrose Road we hope to have out to bid by next month.

<u>Clerk Antonides</u> – had no report for this evening.

<u>Councilman Elect Richkus</u> – had no report for this evening but thanked everyone for their support in the recent election.

<u>Councilman Diana</u> –stated that the tax appeals are a disconcerting trend and said that Mr. McCullen is right, that we need to considering performing a reval here in South Plainfield. Councilman. Diana thanked all the Veterans for their service to our country. To conclude, Councilman Diana congratulated Bobby Richkus and Debbie Boyle and everyone else on the recent election.

<u>Councilman Barletta</u> – advised that he attended the Veteran's Day Ceremony at the VFW and thanked all the Veterans who have served.

<u>Councilman Bengivenga</u> – reported that the K9 Unit had a very busy month in that the dogs successfully assisted Edison with a recent bank robbery among many other duties they performed.

<u>Councilman McConville</u> – said he also attended the VFW ceremony on Veterans Day and also thanked all the veterans for their service to our county. Councilman McConville also said he wanted to publically thank his brother for his time served in the Marines. To conclude, Councilman McConville congratulated Council President Rusnak and Councilman Elect Richkus for their success with the recent election.

<u>Councilman White</u> – reported that he attended a Veterans Day Ceremony at the Middle School. It was an excellent experience for the students to show their appreciation for the veterans. Councilman White reminded everyone that the Cappi awards are forthcoming. The Senior Center serviced 738 meals which may be a record month. The Cultural Arts

Council President Rusnak - thanked everyone for all their support in the recent election and then reported progress.

<u>Mayor Anesh</u> – advised that that he attended the Knights of Columbus Trivia Night and in good humor said he is happy to report that he didn't finish last. The Mayor's Wellness Health Fair was a huge success. Over 100 flu shots were given out. Local physicians and businesses were present, as well as the K9 Unit. Consideration is underway for a Spring time Health Fair.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comment.

Suzanne Lepore of Bullard Place thanked the Mayor and Council for attending the Cultural Arts Line Dancing event. There were close to 200 people in attendance. The window decorating contest proved to be a very tough decision for the Cultural Arts Commission. The window located at Tony's Pizza won for first place. The artist will receive a \$25.00 gift card.

Mr. Paul McCullen of Walnut Street said that he noticed a lot of crosswalks were not relined. Engineer Miller advised that crosswalks do not typically have to be lined. In this particular case, it is a county road and they would be responsible for making the determination if they are to be lined or not. Mr. Miller said usually in residential areas we do not line them as residents don't usually like seeing all the road striping in their neighborhoods. Mr. McCullen asked the status of paving Hadley Road. Councilman Bengivenga said it is already done. Mr. McCullen asked when we will have the municipal parking lot repaved. Council President Rusnak said that we are considering having it done at the same time that the library is refurbished.

Ms. Debbie Boyle of Van Fleet thanked all those who came out for the Tricky Tray event. \$10,000 was raised for a family in need. Ms. Boyle concluded by asking what the status of the digital sign is. Mr. Miller said it is still in the planning stage.

With no further comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

At 7:57 p.m. Mayor Anesh called for an adjournment from the public portion of the meeting to go into Executive Session advising that everyone is welcome to stay if they choose.

ADJOURNMENT

Without further comment and no more action necessary for this evening, Mayor Anesh called for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Bengivenga made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m., seconded by Council President Rusnak and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By:

Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC - Municipal Clerk