

Grayzel Remarks
Township Committee Meeting
5/16/2012

Thank you to Mr. Mancuso, Mr. Caffrey, Mr. Quinn, Ms. Pardo for all their hard work putting together our budget this year. Thanks also to our department heads who had another tough year to deal with in putting together their departmental budgets. Thank you as well to Mrs. Aceto and her staff in our tax department for all their work in managing the many tax appeals that have come in both last year and this year.

Thank you as well to Police Chief Dennis Reilly and to Susan Ferrari for their many years of service to Morris Township. We will all miss you and wish you well in your new endeavors.

A hearty welcome to our new Tax Collector Rebecca Roth and Patrolman Ryan Farrell. Morris Township is a wonderful place to both live and work. I wish you well in your new positions.

Morris Township recently lost two long-serving volunteer firefighters. In mid-April Robert Polo of the Hillside Hose company passed away. Early in May we lost Michael Smith of the Mt. Kemble Fire Company. We are all thankful for their years of service to our community. Our condolences go out to their families on their loss.

On our consent calendar tonight we noted the memo from Fire Chief Lovenberg that volunteer firefighter Joshua Wing is now a qualified operator for Fire Department Engine 4. We are grateful for all the men and women who volunteer for our fire department. Having such a rich pool of firefighters allows us to hold down our costs

in the fire department. However, in addition to fighting the fires we must also get our equipment to the scene, and one must take extensive training in order to get certified to do this driving. I would like to thank firefighter Wing for taking the time to achieve this qualification and congratulate him on his new certification to drive our engine #4.

The annual “Mansion in May” event is ongoing through the end of the month. This year the featured mansion is Glynallyn Castle located right here in Morris township. Proceeds from the event will benefit a new Inpatient Hospice and Palliative Care Center at Morristown Medical Center. For more information visit their website at www.mansioninmay.com

Ten historic sites and museums throughout Morris County are inviting the public to “Be Our Guest” on Sunday, May 20, from noon to 4 p.m. in celebration of National Tourism Week. Participating institutions will open their doors and waive their admission fees during those hours. Venues in the immediate vicinity include Acorn Hall, Fosterfields Historical Farm, Macculloch Hall, Morris Museum, and The Schuyler-Hamilton House. The event is sponsored by the Morris County Alliance for Tourism. For more information, see www.morristourism.org

The 2012 Morristown Colonials Summer Flag Rugby registration is Open. Both of my kids have participated in this wonderful program for many years. Practices will begin on Tuesday right across from the parking lot outside at the Woodland School in Morristown. More information can be found online at www.morristownrugby.com

Lastly, New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection recently urged citizens to conserve as much water as possible. A copy of the DEP press release can be found on the township website. Despite the flooding last year and the nor'easter earlier in the spring, New Jersey is experiencing a rainfall deficit thanks to a dry winter and an equally dry start to the spring season. In fact, here in Morris County, as of a couple of weeks ago rainfall amounts stood at 5.8 inches BELOW normal. So I urge everyone to start conserving water in any manner they can.

Thank you.

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