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February 2012: Morris Township News Update

IMPORTANT -- PLEASE NOTE:

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Dear Neighbors,

This is a brief update on a couple of upcoming events that I mentioned in my January newsletter. If you did not see this last newsletter you can click [HERE](#) to review prior issues.

Township Committee Regular Meeting this Wednesday Feb. 15

The Township Committee will hold its next regular meeting this Wednesday February 15th. The agenda can be found here: <http://www.morristwp.com/>



As I told you in my prior newsletter, at the Township Committee meeting on January 18th I made a request of the Mayor that in light of the Honeywell development proposal before the planning board that the Township Committee hold a public review of the role the Township Committee plays in the land-use planning and land-use ordinance approval processes. I stated that the public needs to have a thorough understanding of the process of adopting land-use regulations and ordinances in our municipality given the expectation that this body would soon be handed a master plan amendment by the Planning Board related to the Honeywell development. Mayor Mancuso agreed to make this a formal agenda item at our February 15 meeting. To members of the public who wish to have a better understanding of our land-use planning and ordinance approval processes: I suggest you attend the February 15 meeting. **Note:** This will be a generic discussion of the approval processes and there will be absolutely no discussion of the specifics of the Honeywell development plan, which is still under purview of the Planning Board.

You can find some internet links to various documents via this article on PATCH:

<http://morris.patch.com/articles/meeting-to-teach-public-about-approval-process>

Note: 7:00pm meeting start time.

NOTE: This year the Township Committee has decided to start the public portion of our meetings at 7:00pm instead of the traditional 8:00pm as in the past. Please make note of the new 7pm start time.

Planning Board releases draft Master Plan Amendment for

Honeywell and schedules public commentary for March 5th

At its January 9th meeting, the Planning Board discussed a draft amendment to the Township’s Master Plan to enable mixed-use development at the 147-acre Honeywell property on Columbia Turnpike and Park Avenue. A newly created zone would allow hundreds of town houses, retail space, office buildings, and a 400-unit CCRC on a subdivision of the Honeywell tract.



You will find the draft master plan amendment on the website of “Citizens For better Planning in Morris Township”. This is a citizen group formed to monitor Honeywell site development planning. <http://c4bpmt.org/news-2/>

The March 5 Planning Board meeting starts at 7:30pm at the Municipal building.

For those of you who want a better understanding of the role of the Township Committee in land-use policy, law and planning process, please note above that the Township Committee will be having a public discussion at their meeting on February 15 (see the end of the section above relating to the January 18 Township Committee meeting).

Valentines Day rose sale to support Township OEM

Members of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) are holding its annual rose sale at the

Hillside firehouse. The quality of the roses is excellent (I buy my roses there every year so I can vouch for the quality) as is the price: \$25 for either two dozen colored roses or one dozen red roses. Hours of the sale are:

- February 12 — 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
- February 13 — 7:00 am to 8:00 pm
- Valentine’s Day, February 14 — 7:00 am to 7:00 pm



The Hillside firehouse is located at 132 Western Avenue in Morris Township.

For orders or questions, call Pat at 973-714-7481 (cell) or e-mail patriciasimms207@hotmail.com . You can order in advance or just stop in and pick from their selection. For more information: <http://www.morristwp.com/12Roses.pdf>

All proceeds benefit the OEM organization – meaning that all proceeds benefit Morris Township residents. The OEM department is staffed entirely by volunteers who give their time to the community. Please support the community by buying your roses at the Hillside firehouse.



Morris Township T-ball and Softball Sign-ups Underway

The T-ball and softball seasons start on April 2 and sign-ups are underway. T-ball is instructional baseball for boys and girls aged 5-7 years old (co-ed teams). Softball is for girls only in grades 2 through 5. Please contact the Township Recreation Department for more info at 973-326-7370.

Upcoming Committee Meeting...

The next Township Committee meeting will be on Wednesday February



15th at 7:00pm at our municipal building. Please note the earlier 7:00pm start time for all of our meetings this year.

Looking ahead, the March meeting will take place on March 21.

Contact Jeff...

I will continue to communicate with the public by e-newsletter on a periodic basis. However, if you ever have a question or an issue you would like to discuss, feel free to contact me by e-mail. I will continue to respond to e-mails sent to Jeff@JeffGrayzel.com.

You can now also be able to reach me at my official Township email address: JGrayzel@Morristwp.com

Please feel free to forward this e-mail on to others. If you know someone who would like to subscribe to future issues, please have them contact me at Jeff@JeffGrayzel.com

I am pleased to once again be representing the residents of Morris Township on the Township Committee. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, issues or concerns.

Your neighbor,
Jeff

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