



## July 2014: Morris Township News Update

Dear Neighbors,

I am pleased to present to you the latest in a series of periodic E-newsletters containing commentary on our Township Committee meetings as well as other helpful information about Morris Township.

There is a lot of important and interesting information below so please take a few moments to read this newsletter to stay informed about our municipality. As always, I welcome your comments. When you are finished, please pass this on to your neighbors and friends.

I usually begin with a summary of our recent municipal meetings, but this time I want to let you know about an upcoming meeting that has been scheduled on very short notice.

### Honeywell Property Update

The Honeywell property has been formally sold to a pair of developers. The Rockefeller Group will be the lead developer of the overall project and will be developing the office portion of the. At the April meeting, the Township Committee's main order of business was the adoption of complex. Hovnanian builders will develop the residential units.

Rockefeller and Hovnanian recently filed their development plans with the Planning Board, and the first public meeting has already been scheduled for July 21 – just one week away. If the planning board accepts the general development plan (GDP) for what is termed a Planned Unit Development, mixed-use campus, then the next step for them would be to submit a formal site plan application to Morris Township's planning board.



Read the Daily Record article on this development here:

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/story/news/local/2014/07/06/developers-file-homeoffice-plans-morris-township-site/12191267/>

I urge residents to come to the Planning Board meeting on July 21 (starting at 7:30pm at our municipal building) to hear for themselves how this large piece of property will be developed. This will be the biggest development project our town has seen in a long time.

### Township Committee meetings of April, May and June

**The April meeting of the Township Committee was held on April 16, 2014.**

The agenda can be found here:

<http://www.morristwp.com/AgendaCenter>

At the April meeting, the Township Committee's main order of business was the adoption of the 2014 municipal budget.

Please see the separate section below in this newsletter with budget information. At the April meeting, the Township

Administrator gave a presentation to the public that highlighted key elements of the budget.

In April, four other ordinances were also adopted, and these can be found by clicking on the link for the agenda above. The resolutions we passed can also be viewed through this link.



The bid committee awarded bids for the following projects:

- DRAINAGE, CURB & SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS (MISC)
- ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (FLORENCE AVE. AREA)

The Township Committee concluded the meeting with commentary from each member of the Committee. My public commentary is posted to my website so that they are publicly available. Here are my remarks from the April meeting:

<http://www.jeffgrayzel.com/pdf/Grayzel%20Remarks%20-%20TC%20Mtg%202014-04-16.pdf>

### **The May meeting of the Township Committee was held on May 21, 2014.**

The agenda can be found here:

<http://www.morristwp.com/AgendaCenter>

At the May meeting, the Township Committee received an updated bid on the reconstruction of Ginty pool and allocated \$2,049,000 in funding for this project. (See more information in a separate section below). The Township Committee also passed an ordinance authorizing the issuance of \$2,392,000 in bonds for various capital improvements.

All three of the ordinances adopted in May can be viewed by clicking on the link for the agenda above. The resolutions we passed can also be viewed through this link.

The bid committee awarded bids for the following projects:

- SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENT REBID-RENOVATIONS-GINTY POOL-\$1,701,895
- PROCUREMENT OF 65 AND 95 GOLLON SOLID WASTE REFUSE CONTAINERS (NEW GARBAGE COLLECION PROGRAM)

The Township Committee concluded the meeting with commentary from each member of the Committee. My public commentary is posted to my website so that they are publicly available. Here are my remarks from the May meeting:

<http://www.jeffgrayzel.com/pdf/Grayzel%20Remarks%20-%20TC%20Mtg%202014-05-21.pdf>

### **The June meeting of the Township Committee was held on June 18, 2014.**

The agenda can be found here:

<http://www.morristwp.com/AgendaCenter>

At the June meeting, the Township Committee decided to postpone until July their vote on the one ordinance up for adoption. This ordinance sets the rates that certain other municipalities pay to Morris Township to connect to our sewer system. This ordinance can be viewed by clicking on the link for the agenda above. The resolutions we passed can also be viewed on this link.

The Township Committee concluded the meeting with commentary from each member of the Committee. My public commentary from the June meeting is posted to my website:

<http://www.jeffgrayzel.com/pdf/Grayzel%20Remarks%20-%20TC%20Mtg%202014-06-18.pdf>

The next meeting of the Township Committee will occur this coming Wednesday, July 16 at 7:00pm at our municipal building.

### **Morris Township 2014 Budget**

At the Township Committee's monthly meeting on April 16th, the 2014 municipal budget was voted on and passed. The municipal tax increase will be \$28 for a household with an assessed value of \$390,000.

A summary of the 2014 budget can be found at:

<http://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/1541>

The complete 2014 municipal budget can be found at:

<http://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/1439>

If you would like to compare this year's budget to past years, you can find older budgets posted online here:

<http://www.morristwp.com/404/Adopted-Municipal-Budgets>

The presentation slides from the Administrators' budget presentation are also on this last link above, but please note that you must have the "PowerPoint" program to view this presentation.

### **Ginty Pool Update**

Back in March it was announced that the plan to have Ginty pool renovated for the summer of 2014 had been delayed. The cost of renovations was estimated at \$1.6 million, but the lowest bid that came back to complete the work was \$1.8 million. So the renovation plan was itself renovated and the project was put out to bid again. New bids were received in May, and at our May Township Committee meeting the Township Committee appropriated additional funding to allow the project to move forward.



In the meantime, both Ginty and Streeter pools are in use this season, but in the same condition they were in last year. Construction on the new Ginty pool will hopefully start in the Fall after the pool season is over.

Read more details here:

<http://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/1236>

Pool memberships are still available. Contact the recreation department office for more information at 973-326-7371.

### **New Automated Trash Collection coming to Morris Township**

The Township is implementing a new trash-collection program that utilizes a new automated garbage truck with a mechanical arm to pick up specialized garbage "carts". As part of the program, the Township will be providing each resident with a free cart that is specially sized to work with the new automated truck.

This program is being implemented in 3 phases, so only one-third of our residents are affected at this time. Those affected should have received notice from the Township via a letter in the mail from our DPW superintendent. You can check your street against the list provided in the link below.

Here are some key informational items about the program:

- There is no cost to our residents. Each resident will receive a free 95-gallon container for their garbage. A 95 gallon cart has been selected as the standard and shall be delivered to each residence. This cart is for trash only! There are smaller carts available if anyone prefers, especially for seniors who usually have much less garbage to dispose of each week.
- There are display models of these carts located at the Municipal Building at 50 Woodland Ave., and at the Department of Public Works located at 6 Jane Way, off of West Hanover Ave. Residents are encouraged to come view the carts at either of these locations.
- Senior citizens or residents with special needs should contact the Department of Public Works if they feel the cart they receive is too difficult for them to maneuver.
- Your trash collection day remains the same: if your trash is collected on a Monday your collection day remains Monday
- This program does not affect our recycling program, which will continue as normal.
- This program is being implemented in phases, and only one-third of our residents will be receiving the new carts at this time.



More information about the new trash collection program can be found on the township website: <http://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/1889>

**Phase 1 of this new program goes into effect on Monday August 25.** If you have any questions you can contact the Department of Public Works at 973-326-7398 or email them at [publicworks@morristwp.com](mailto:publicworks@morristwp.com)

## **Grayzel up for Reelection this year**

My second 3-year term in office is over at the end of this year, and I will be up for reelection in the November general elections. I am pleased to be running for another term on the Morris Township Committee in order to continue serving the residents of our municipality.

There are two seats up for election this year, and I am proud to announce my running mate will be Cathy Wilson. Cathy ran for the opening on the Township Committee last year and received 42% of the vote. Since then, Cathy and what she stands for has been made known to many, many more people. I'm looking forward to working side by side with her this election season, and on the Township Committee.

More information about our campaign will be forthcoming so please keep an eye out for it.

## **Other News of Interest**

- **Township movie nights:** The Township Recreation department is hosting a series of outdoor movies this summer. The next movie night is on Wednesday July 23. A complete listing of the movies can be found here: <http://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/1776>
- **Township concert series:** Every summer the Township Recreation department holds a series of outdoor concerts at the gazebo at Ginty Field. These concerts are generously sponsored by Provident Bank. The next concert is this coming Tuesday July 15. A complete listing of the concerts can be found here: <http://www.morristwp.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=133>



- **Motorists in New Jerseys must STOP for any pedestrian in a marked crosswalk.**  
Read this information from the NJ Department of Transportation:  
<http://www.nj.gov/oag/hts/pedestrian.html>  
Please view this public service announcement:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usTMpdWwYEM&list=UUtMY-2GpISaQXuPJea8M6fg>
- **The Township Recreation Department** has posted its Summer brochure and lists many interesting activities. You can find a copy here:  
<http://www.morristwp.com/DocumentCenter/View/1377>  
For more information, or if you have questions, please contact the Recreation department at 973-3326-7371.
- **Youth Public Safety Academy:** This FREE program is open to high school students entering grades 9-12 and is being held at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy located at 500 West Hanover Avenue. The program runs from August 11-15 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm each day. This free training program designed to expose student "cadets" to careers in public safety and law enforcement. More details can be found in this article from the Morristown Green:  
<http://morristowngreen.com/2014/07/08/hey-kids-curious-about-a-career-in-public-safety-morris-county-has-a-free-summer-camp/>
- **Free Dental Screenings for Veterans:** The Morris County Veterans' Clinic in the county's Human Services Building, 340 West Hanover Ave. in Morris Township. More details can be found in this article from the Morristown Green:  
<http://morristowngreen.com/2014/05/01/free-dental-visits-for-veterans-coming-to-morris-township/>
- **New Jersey turns 350** in 2014 and is celebrating 350 years of history. Read about all the activities taking place surrounding this event  
<http://officialnj350.com/what-is-nj350/>

### **Upcoming Committee Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Township Committee will be this coming Wednesday July 16th at 7:00pm in our municipal building.

## **The Next Meeting is Wed., July 16th**

Please try to attend one of our Township meetings to see how your local government operates. Your presence improves the quality of the proceedings, and your "in-person" questions assist the Township Committee in being responsive to our citizens.

### **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](mailto:Jeff@JeffGrayzel.com)

You can also reach me at my official Township email address: [JGrayzel@Morristwp.com](mailto:JGrayzel@Morristwp.com)

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

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions, ideas, or concerns.

Your neighbor,  
Jeff

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