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**March 24, 2010
Township Committee
Special Meeting Minutes**

A Special Meeting of the Kingwood Township Committee was called to order at 5:10 A.M. with Mayor James Burke.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Mayor Lubitz, Committeewoman Niemann, C.F.O. Laudenbach, Planner David Banisch, Clerk MacConnell, and Deputy Clerk Keller. Following the salute to the Flag, Mayor Burke read aloud the following:

NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the notice in the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News on March 18, 2010 and by telefaxing copies of the notice to the Express Times and Star Ledger on March 16, 2010. Copies of the notice were also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Baptistown Post Office on March 16, 2010.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this Committee or Board, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over-talk, and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Resolution No. 2010-32 – 2009 Budget Reserve Appropriation Transfers

RESOLUTION

The following Resolution was introduced:

RESOLUTION NO. 2010 - 32

2009 BUDGET RESERVE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to make the following transfers within the 2009 Budget Reserve Appropriations:

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FROM ACCOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
119-0650-101	119-0650-299	400.00
		400.00
TOTAL TRANSFERRED:		

It was moved by Mr. Lubitz, seconded by Mrs. Niemann and carried to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	-	Lubitz, Niemann, Burke
Nay	-	None
Abstain	-	None
Absent	-	None

2010 Municipal Budget – Work Session

C.F.O. Diane Laudenbach distributed a worksheet for the Committee members to review. She noted that she would have to cut approximately \$23,000 if no increase in the municipal budget. She stated that there are no increases in the budget figures except for the Department of Public Works contract expenses. She suggested leaving the capital improvement fund for the Spring Hill Road increase. She noted that if the Township collects 1cent then they can increase the budget by approximately \$37,000. Mayor Burke distributed worksheet figures from the Delaware Valley Regional High School. He feels that the Township cannot really afford not to collect one percent or even a half percent extra. There was a lengthy discussion on the school budget and its cuts, the municipal surplus, and whether or not to increase the municipal rate. The Committee members reviewed with C.F.O. Laudenbach the increases that would be on a \$100,000 assessment. It was noted that on a 2 cent increase, it would amount to approximately \$20.00 on a \$100,000 assessed valued home. Deputy Mayor Lubitz noted that he has been in contact with several other municipalities regarding possible shared services to save the Township money. He explained that there is nothing specific at this time and that everything is on the table at this time. Deputy Mayor Lubitz hopes to have more information by the next Township Committee meeting in April. Mayor Burke asked if there were any other areas that could save the Township money. He noted that the Township employees will have a zero increase in pay this year, except for the Public Works Department who are currently under contract with the Union. C.F.O. Laudenbach answered several questions about the budget from the Committee members. Mayor Burke suggested that the Township collect one and a half percent. This would be an increase of \$15.00 on a \$100,000 assessed valued home. Committeewoman Niemann agreed with the one and a half percent increase. She feels that it is smart to do for the Township, and it will help keep things more stable. Deputy Mayor Lubitz expressed that he does not agree with the increase, he stated that he feels that it will not be good for the residents who are struggling in this economy.

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The Committee members reviewed the line items with C.F.O. Laudenbach. They reviewed where the funds will be distributed. Mayor Burke stated that \$2,000 will go towards building and grounds, \$5,000 towards renovations for the municipal building and court offices, and \$60,000 will go into the capital improvement fund. The Committee members continued to discuss the budget, court renovations and recycling.

Executive Session – Resolution No. 2010-31

The following Resolution was introduced to enter into closed session at approximately 5:55PM.

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-31

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975 (R.S.10:4-13) permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or a portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the meeting or a portion of a meeting at which this public body discusses the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

**Contract Negotiations – Habitat For Humanity for BI 20 L 1
Contractual – Professional Services – 1868 Public Affairs
Possible Litigation - Casuscelli**

3. The time when the circumstances under which the discussions conducted in closed session of this public body can be disclosed to the public is as follows:

The minutes of the closed session will be made public upon conclusion, dismissal or settlement of litigation; or final resolution of agreements or personnel matters; and in any event, when appropriate pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 and 13.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.
5. The Township Committee may take additional action upon returning to regular session.

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It was moved by Mr. Lubitz, seconded by Mrs. Niemann and carried to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE	- Lubitz, Niemann, Burke
NAY	- None
ABSTAIN	- None
ABSENT	- None

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Lubitz, seconded by Mrs. Niemann and carried to return to regular session at 6:50P.M. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Amendment to Resolution No. 2010 – 32

RESOLUTION

The following Resolution was amended:

RESOLUTION NO. 2010 - 32

2009 BUDGET RESERVE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to make the following transfers within the 2009 Budget Reserve Appropriations:

FROM ACCOUNT	TO ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
119-0650-101	119-0650-299	2,400.00
		2,400.00
TOTAL TRANSFERRED:		

It was moved by Mr. Lubitz, seconded by Mrs. Niemann and carried to adopt the foregoing Resolution as requested by the Township’s C.F.O., amending the amount to \$2,400.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	-	Lubitz, Niemann, Burke
Nay	-	None
Abstain	-	None
Absent	-	None

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PUBLIC COMMENT – PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

No Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Lubitz, seconded by Mrs. Niemann and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:52PM. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cynthia L. Keller, RMC
Deputy Clerk**