

**TOWNSHIP OF WALL  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 7, 2009**

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In accordance with the Statutes, the Township Committee met in the Municipal Complex Meeting Room on January 7, 2009. Present were Committeeman Michael J. Clayton, Committeeman Jeffrey W. Foster, Committeeman Clinton C. Hoffman, Committeeman-elect George K. Newberry, Committeewoman-elect Ann Marie Conte, Township Administrator Joseph L. Verruni, Township Attorney Joseph W. Oxley and Township Clerk Lorraine Kubacz.

The reorganization meeting for 2009 was called to order by Township Clerk Lorraine Kubacz.

Father Brian T. Butch, Pastor of Holy Innocence led the invocation.

Township Clerk Kubacz led the Salute to the Flag.

Township Clerk Kubacz read the Sunshine Statement.

Township Clerk Kubacz read the following official results of the General Election held on November 4, 2009, in which two Committeemen was elected for a full term as attested to by Monmouth County Clerk M. Claire French, Special Deputy Clerk Bertha C. Sumick and the Board of Canvassers.

<u>TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE (FULL TERM)</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTE CAST</u>
George K. Newberry	7,292
Ann Marie Conte	7,209
John P. Devlin	6,798
Joseph Tonzola	6,348

The Board determined that George K. Newberry and Ann Marie Conte were duly elected to the Township Committee for a full term.

Honorable Alexander D. Lehrer, J.S.C. Retired, said that he was honored to be here for Mr. Newberry and Mrs. Conte. Judge Lehrer administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected official George K. Newberry.

Honorable Alexander D. Lehrer, J.S.C. Retired, and Dr. Richard Hader administered the oath of office to newly elected Township Committeewoman Ann Marie Conte. Both said that they were honored to be here for Mrs. Conte.

Committeeman Newberry offered Resolution No. 09-101 and moved it be adopted. Mrs. Kubacz read the Resolution entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL ELECTING THE MAYOR OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL." Committeewoman Conte seconded the Resolution and on roll-call, members voted as follows:

Conte	Yea
Foster	Yea
Hoffman	Yea
Newberry	Yea
Clayton	Yea

There being five yeas and no nays, Mrs. Kubacz declared the Resolution adopted. Honorable Senator Sean Kean administered the oath of office to Mayor Michael J. Clayton.

Sen. Kean thanked Mayor Clayton for asking him to swear him in and said he was honored to do this.

Mayor Michael J. Clayton presided over the meeting. Mayor Clayton recognized some of the members of the audience including Sen. Kean, Assemblyman Rible, Freeholder Burry, Former Mayors Claire French, Art Krumm, Robert McKenna and Mary Burne. Mayor Clayton also recognized Chief David Morris.

Mayor Clayton thanked everyone for their support. He thanked his family Linda, Kelsey and Jack, his mom, Aunt and Uncle and many of his close friends. He said he appreciated everyone coming out tonight. Mayor Clayton thanked the police department, town hall employees and DPW for an outstanding job that is performed 365 days a year. Mayor Clayton thanked all the volunteers for the fire departments and first aid squads and the people who serve on the boards and committees.

Mayor Clayton stated that tonight is a night of firsts. Mayor Clayton is the first member of a Wall school to serve as Mayor, we have our first woman prosecutor, Robin Stacey, and Carmella Roberts is being sworn in as a Consulting Engineer and she is from a firm that is predominately women. Mayor Clayton said he is honored that the Committee has put their faith in him. Mayor Clayton promised to be fiscally responsible to our taxpayers. Mayor Clayton noted that the six or seven appointments tonight are to our lowest bidders. That is a savings of \$44,000 over last year. The majority of the existing professionals have been kept on because they have kept their rates for 2009.

Mayor Clayton said we would be reducing the workforce through attrition rather than firing, which would be a \$1 million savings. We are working with the County with the salt barn agreement. We didn't have to build a new barn which would have cost thousands of dollars.

There are many critical issues this year including COAH, dredging of Shark River, Wall Stadium and the airport. Mayor Clayton promised with the rest of the Committee to work together and put differences aside to do what is best for the citizens of the town. A few years ago, Mayor Clayton said he was sick and many people supported him. Now it is his turn to do the best he can for this community. Mayor Clayton said thank you and God Bless You.

Committeewoman Conte offered Resolution No. 00-102 and moved it be adopted. Mrs. Kubacz read the Resolution entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL ELECTING THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL." Committeeman Newberry seconded the Resolution and on roll-call, members voted as follows:

Conte	Yea
Foster	No
Hoffman	No
Newberry	Yea
Clayton	Yea

There being three yeas and two nays, Mayor Clayton declared the Resolution adopted. Honorable Alexander D. Lehrer administered the oath of office to Deputy Mayor George K. Newberry.

Before his vote, Committeeman Hoffman noted that he is between a rock and a hard place on this issue. He noted that he is just getting to know George Newberry and he seems like a wonderful person with a long track record of community service and at another time and place he could probably have whole heartily supported Mr. Newberry for the job of Deputy Mayor, but today he has a problem with doing so. Last year, Mr. Hoffman pointed out that along with committee members Mike Clayton, Jeff Foster and John Devlin he went over the appointments for Wall Township. This group worked together very well as a team and decided all appointments based on merit and also decided that John Devlin would be the Mayor and Mike Clayton Deputy Mayor. It was further decided that the following year, Mike would be Mayor and Jeff would be Deputy Mayor. For whatever reason, Mike finds that he can no longer live up to that commitment and Committeeman Hoffman thinks that is wrong. Mr. Hoffman pointed out that Mike is getting his opportunity to be Mayor as planned with both his support and the support of Mr. Foster because they will be keeping their word so he feels it is only fair that Mike honors his word and vote to make committeeman Foster Deputy Mayor. Committeeman Hoffman summed up by saying that is why he must vote no for George to be Deputy Mayor this year.

Committeeman Foster noted that Deputy Mayor is a very important position in this economical time with COAH and cut backs. Mr. Foster thanked Mr. Hoffman but said he felt Mr. Hoffman should be the Deputy Mayor and he voted no also.

Deputy Mayor Newberry stated that this is a Township form of government and these positions are honorary positions. He appreciated the trust in nominating him and voted yes.

**Consent Agenda**

With reference to Items 10 A - AA, it was announced that all matters will be adopted or approved collectively by a single motion and roll-call vote by a majority of the Township Committee. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired on any item, it will be considered separately. Mayor Clayton asked if any member of the Township Committee wished to consider any item separately. There being no comments, a motion was made by Committeeman , seconded by Committeeman to adopt the following Resolutions and on roll-call, members voted as follows:

Conte	Yea
Foster	Yea
Hoffman	Yea
Newberry	Yea
Clayton	Yea

There being five yeas and no nays, Mayor Clayton declared the following Resolution adopted:

#09-103 - RESOLUTION - RE: CREATING CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL

#09-104 - RESOLUTION - RE: AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS PROFESSIONALS FOR THE YEAR 2009

#09-105 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE AND A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATE

#09-106 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING CERTAIN OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

#09-107 - RESOLUTION - RE: DESIGNATING OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

#09-108 - RESOLUTION - RE: FIXING TIME AND PLACE OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS

#09-109 - RESOLUTION - RE: NAMING OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WALL FOR THE YEAR 2009

#09-110 - RESOLUTION - RE: AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES TO FIX THE INTEREST RATE ON DELINQUENT TAXES

#09-111 - RESOLUTION - RE: AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO CANCEL CERTAIN CREDITS AND DELINQUENCIES OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES

#09-112 - RESOLUTION - RE: CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS IN THE FIRE COMPANIES - SOUTH WALL FIRE COMPANY NO. 1

#09-113 - RESOLUTION - RE: CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS IN THE FIRE COMPANIES - GLENDOLA FIRE COMPANY NO. 1

#09-114 - RESOLUTION - RE: CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS IN THE FIRE COMPANIES - WALL FIRE COMPANY NO. 1

#09-115 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING A PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

#09-116 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR

#09-117 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE PLANNING BOARD

#09-118 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

#09-119 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#09-120 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO COMMUNITY RELATIONS/COMMUNITY ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

#09-121 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#09-122 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO MOBILE HOME RENT CONTROL BOARD

#09-123 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO LOCAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

#09-124 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD

#09-125 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE MARCONI PARK COMPLEX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#09-126 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE EVANS AREA RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

#09-127 - RESOLUTION - RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COMMODITY RESALE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

#09-128 - RESOLUTION - RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MUNICIPAL ASSISTANCE/SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

#09-129 - RESOLUTION - RE: AUTHORIZING TAX ASSESSOR TO REPRESENT THE TOWNSHIP IN TAX APPEALS

**End of Consent Agenda**

Committeeman Hoffman noted that the Evans Area Restoration Advisory Board has been in operation a long time. Mr. Hoffman stated that the job that Wilma Morrissey and Bob McAllan are doing is amazing and he would like to give them an extra round of applause.

With reference to Resolution #09-130 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY, Committeeman Newberry moved that the Resolution be adopted. Committeewoman Conte seconded the motion, and on roll-call members voted as follows:

Conte	Yea
Foster	Nay
Hoffman	Nay
Newberry	Yea
Clayton	Yea

There being three yeas and no nays, the Mayor declared the Resolution adopted.

Before his vote for Township Attorney, Committeeman Hoffman said that again he had an issue with this appointment as he did with that of Deputy Mayor. Mr. Hoffman pointed out that there had been a change over at the county level in terms of control for the first time in over 20 years. He went on to say that he read in the paper a quote from Freeholder Lillian Burry, whom he noted was in the crowd and making him nervous as he was about to attempt to quote her. Mr. Hoffman said that as he recollected Ms. Burry said in the paper in effect that many county employees had come to her and they were worried about their jobs because of the changeover in control from one party to another. Ms. Burry went on to say that she hoped that anyone doing their job professionally should not have to worry about losing their job. Mr. Hoffman said he agreed with that, but that he wondered why that would hold at the county level and not here in Wall Township. Mr. Hoffman said he does not know Mr. Oxley and that he has nothing against him personally. He may be a great guy and a good lawyer but Mr. Hoffman just cannot be sure of that. What Mr. Hoffman said he is sure of is that last year we had a great person and a great attorney in this position in Mark Kitrick. Mr. Kitrick did an outstanding job last year and is also a resident of the town. He saved the taxpayers money and it was not a slow year. He dealt this past year with cell phone

towers, hunting issues and set up a water authority that will save taxpayers even more money in the future, just to name a few things. Mr. Hoffman said he would recommend Mr. Kitrick to anyone, at any time and in any place. Mr. Hoffman said he should not have been replaced, especially for political reasons. He added that the Township attorney should be hired on merit. Their political affiliation should not have any bearing on the decision, just how good a job they will do for the residents of the Town. As a result, Committeeman Hoffman had to respectfully vote no for Mr. Oxley.

Committeeman Foster said he spoke with Mr. Oxley and felt the same way as Mr. Hoffman. Mr. Kitrick was available 24 hrs., any time we needed him. Mr. Oxley may be the same. We saved over \$100,000 last year with Mr. Kitrick and he hoped we would stay on course.

Deputy Mayor Newberry noted that selecting appointments is a daunting task. Everyone went through the selections and spent hours reviewing these RFPs. There is a lot to be considered. Mr. Newberry said he put his confidence in Joe Oxley.

With reference to Resolution #09-131 - RESOLUTION - RE: APPOINTING TOWNSHIP BOND COUNSEL, Committeewoman Conte moved that the Resolution be adopted. Deputy Mayor Newberry seconded the motion and on roll-call, members voted as follows:

Conte	Yea
Foster	Nay
Hoffman	Nay
Newberry	Yea
Clayton	Yea

There being three yeas and two nays, the Mayor declared the Resolution adopted.

Prior to his vote, Committeeman Hoffman also noted that last year the Committee went through a number of appointments. The bond counsel who was selected offered the best price and had a tremendous resume. He helped Wall's administrative staff set up the Water Authority this year which will save residents money. His name is John Cantalupo and Mr. Hoffman couldn't understand why he was being replaced. Because of this he will also vote not for Bond Counsel.

Committeeman Foster said he would vote no also because John Cantalupo was an excellent choice last year. The choices that were made were non-partisan, they were never asked for their affiliation. Mr. Cantalupo had the lowest price and most experience. Mr. Foster said he would vote no for the new Bond Counsel.

Deputy Mayor Newberry stated that, as with the others, he spent time going over these RFPs and talked to other people to

get some input about the firm that is being appointed. This firm will charge the same and Mr. Newberry said he thinks they will do an excellent job, so he will vote yes.

Mayor Clayton noted that the Resolution appointing a Township Auditor is being pulled from the agenda for further discussion.

Members of the Boards and Committees were sworn in by Judge Brennan.

### **Comments from Township Committee**

Committeewoman Conte said that as she reflects on the next three years, she will listen to her friends and neighbors and the people of Wall Township. She will listen to people who agree with her and who disagree, Republicans and Democrats alike. We deserve a Township Committee who wants to hear from everyone to help make our community the best it can be. Mrs. Conte said she will work together with her fellow committee members. She will work on the day to day needs of the community while maintaining fiscal accountability today and in the future.

Mrs. Conte said that we deserve a Township Committee where their only goal is what's best for Wall Township. We deserve a united community and a Township Committee that works hard for everyone. Mrs. Conte thanked her family who supported her so that she may serve all the community. Mrs. Conte thanked her "other family" at Meridian for their guidance and encouragement which has made this night possible. Mrs. Conte said she will be listening and working hard for each and every one and God Bless Wall Township.

Committeeman Hoffman thanked his wife and family also and said that he is trying to do the right thing for Wall Township. He agreed with many of the things Committeewoman Conte just said, but jokingly added that he would add the Independents as well as the Republicans and Democrats she mentioned as people we all need to listen too. Mr. Hoffman said that he is looking forward to working with everyone for the betterment of Wall Township. Mr. Hoffman said he is particularly looking forward to working with Mayor Clayton on this year's Charity Ball. Last year, Mr. Hoffman, Mike Clayton, Jeff Foster and then Mayor John Devlin held the first Wall Mayor's Charity Ball and the proceeds from the charity ball went 100% to two charities in town, Wall Helps its People (WHIP) and the Wall Historical Society. Mr. Hoffman said that he would like to continue this new tradition. Mr. Hoffman said that he felt strongly that the title of Mayor should not be used to benefit a special interest group or specific political party as it has in the past. That honorary title needs to be used for the best interest of all the residents of Wall and having a Mayor's Charity Ball is one way

to do that. Mr. Hoffman said that he would go as far as to suggest that the committee possibly look at the two volunteer first aid squad organizations as potential recipients of an event this year. Volunteer first aiders answer up to 1500 calls a year which takes time away from their families and this is a special level of service that deserves to be recognized. Mr. Hoffman summarized by saying there are a lot of challenges in front of us for 2009 with COAH, the budget situation and more and he is ready to work with his fellow committee members to find the best solutions for all the residents of Wall.

Committeeman Foster said that he looks forward to working with George Newberry and Ann Marie Conte. Mr. Foster said he agrees with Committeeman Hoffman about the charity ball which is very important because fundraising is very short.

Deputy Mayor Newberry thanked Father Butch for his blessing and guidance. Mr. Newberry thanked his wife who put up with him during this campaign. Mr. Newberry thanked his children. Mr. Newberry thanked Mayor Krumm, who has been "Uncle Artie" to him, for giving him strength. Deputy Mayor Newberry said that he met Ann Marie Conte last year started on the challenge that has taken them to many events. Her energy has propelled him to go on every day. Mr. Newberry thanked the Lord above who put the two of them together. Mr. Newberry said he plans to continue to use the strength as we move forward.

Mr. Newberry thanked various members of the audience and the residents of Wall who tolerated them. Everyone was willing to listen and talk. The education they received by going door to door will be used as they govern. Mr. Newberry thanked Mary DeSarno, Jo Schloeder and the Party as a whole. Mr. Newberry thanked Mr. Verruni and his staff who have welcomed them into town hall in a very professional manner. Mr. Newberry also thanked his employer who tolerates him.

This is a long road, with one purpose, to serve Wall Township. Mr. Newberry thanked Ned Thomson for setting an example for him to walk in and for letting him carry on what he has set forward. Deputy Mayor Newberry thanked Mayor Clayton for his trust in him. He thanked Clint Hoffman for answering all his calls. This is a wonderful town and we will work together. Mr. Newberry thanked Jeff Foster and said that they will do a wonderful job for Wall Township.

Deputy Mayor Newberry thanked John Devlin, former Mayor. He said he appreciates anyone who was involved in politics because it takes a lot. There are many challenges like COAH and open space ahead of the Committee and Mr. Newberry said he plans to start working on them tomorrow morning. He promised to use alternative fuels and said that he studied solar energy over the last fuel nights, educating himself ahead of time so that we will have proper understanding of how that works and how it

could help the town. Deputy Mayor Newberry again thanked everyone for their support.

Mayor Clayton invited everyone to the Four Winds and asked for a motion to adjourn.

There being no further business, Committeeman Hoffman moved to adjourn. Committeeman Foster seconded the motion to adjourn and all voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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Lorraine Kubacz  
Township Clerk

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Michael J. Clayton  
Mayor