

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 28, 2012 MINUTES**

The Tewksbury Township Committee met in a work session on the above date at the Municipal Building, Mountainville, NJ.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM, roll call held and a quorum established. Mayor Dana Desiderio presided.

Other officials in attendance were Township Committee members Louis DiMare, Peter Melick, Shaun Van Doren and William Voyce.

Jesse Landon, Township Administrator and Roberta Brassard, Municipal Clerk were in attendance.

There were approximately twenty members of the public in attendance.

1. Open Public Meetings Statement

The Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mayor Desiderio.

2. Flag Salute

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

3. Actions to be Taken

➤ **Ordinance Public Hearing
Ordinance #01-2012**

Mr. Van Doren made a motion to open the Public Hearing on Ordinance #01-2012, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

Ms. Brassard provided proof of publication from the 02/14/12 Courier News.

There being no comments from the public, Mr. Van Doren made a motion to close the Public Hearing on Ordinance #01-2012, seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

Mr. Van Doren moved adoption of Ordinance #01-2012, seconded by Dr. Voyce. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**ORDINANCE #01-2012
CALENDAR YEAR 2012
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

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WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury in the County of Hunterdon finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2012 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 1% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 61,986.01 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Township Committee hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, in the County of Hunterdon, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2012 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Tewksbury shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$ 216,951.04, and that the CY 2012 municipal budget for the Township of Tewksbury be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Dana Desiderio
Mayor

➤ **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Voyce requested that Resolution #36-2012 be removed from the Consent Agenda.
Mr. Van Doren requested that Resolution #39-2012 and the regular minutes of 02-14-12 be removed from the Consent Agenda.
Mr. Melick requested that the authorization to have the Clerk sign the OFC membership

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application for Brent Sutton (change state designation) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Voyce moved adoption of the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Van Doren. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION #37-2012
TO SELL A SERVICE FIREARM TO PBA LOCAL 188
FOR PRESENTATION TO OFFICER THOMAS CONRAD**

WHEREAS, Officer Thomas Conrad has served the Police Department of the Township of Tewksbury for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thomas Conrad is retiring after 25 years of dedicated service to the Township of Tewksbury; and

WHEREAS, PBA Local 188 has requested that they be allowed to purchase his current service firearm at fair market value for presentation to Officer Thomas Conrad as a retirement gift; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has determined the weapon to be surplus property that this current service firearm will be excess to the needs of the Department upon Officer Conrad's retirement and has recommended approval of the sale and;

WHEREAS, Officer Thomas Conrad has agreed to keep the service firearm as a memento of his service with the Township and has agreed to keep this as personal property; and

WHEREAS, the appropriate permits and paperwork will be completed for this transfer of ownership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the transfer of Smith and Wesson Model #4566TSW from the Township of Tewksbury to PBA Local 188 effective on or about March 1, 2012 pending receipt of appropriate permits, paperwork and payment.

Dana Desiderio
Mayor

**RESOLUTION #38-2012
TAX REFUND**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the following payment for the refund tax.

Block Lot	Name	Year	Amount
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3	22	Randi & Steven Beck 41 Vernoy Rd Califon NJ 07830	2011	123.84
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Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to make the following cancellation of tax.

Block Lot	Name	Year	Amount
29 8.03	Michael & Maggie Delia	2012	69.75

Dana Desiderio
Mayor

MISCELLANEOUS

- Claims as submitted by the CFO
- Regular minutes of 01-24-12
- Executive Session minutes of 02-14-12
- Authorization to have Mayor sign F & D for 06-09-12 Americas Grown A Row event at Brady Life Camp

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Voyce read the following Resolution into the minutes of the meeting.

Mr. Van Doren made a motion to adopt Resolution #36-2012, seconded by Mr. Melick. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Melick, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None.

**RESOLUTION #36-2012
TO RECOGNIZE OFFICER THOMAS CONRAD**

WHEREAS, Thomas Conrad has been an employee of the Township of Tewksbury serving in the Police Department for twenty five years; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Conrad has a record of exemplary performance in the Township as evidenced by his laudatory service record, his advanced training and the recognition of his peers; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Conrad has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow officers, his fellow municipal employees and the elected and appointed officials of the Township; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Conrad has worked countless hours to protect and serve the citizens of the Township of Tewksbury, the businesses, volunteers and visitors to the Township thus making the Township a safe community in which to reside and work.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes Officer Thomas Conrad for his dedicated and superior service to the Township and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

Dana Desiderio
Mayor

Mr. Van Doren stated that he was not in favor of adopting Resolution #39-2012, adding that he was not present when the original Resolution regarding tree cutting by JCP&L was adopted in 2011. He stated that the Resolution has created angst among the residents and suggested holding off on considering adoption of the Resolution.

Mayor Desiderio stated that she would like to do away with the original Resolution in its entirety as she felt the word “aggressive” should not have been utilized.

Mr. Melick stated that the new wording utilizing “assertive” was grammatically incorrect. He added that JCP&L needs to continue with tree clearing in order to avoid more problems in upcoming storms.

Dr. Voyce suggested changing the word in question to “prudent”.

Mr. DiMare stated that more than one word may have to be changed in the Resolution.

Mr. Van Doren stated that a Resolution does not carry over past the year in which it was adopted, and if a new Resolution were to be adopted, it should be after the presentation by JCP&L.

Resolution #39-2012 was pulled from the agenda.

Mr. Van Doren stated that he did not have time to read the minutes from 02-14-12 and would like to hold their adoption until the next meeting.

Mr. Van Doren made a motion authorizing the Clerk to sign the OFC membership application for Brent Sutton (change state designation), seconded by Dr. Voyce. The motion was approved. Ayes: Desiderio, DiMare, Van Doren, Voyce. Nays: None. Abstain: Melick.

- Authorization to have the Clerk sign the OFC membership application for Brent Sutton (change state designation)

4. Work Session Topics

➤ **JCP&L**

John Anderson, JCP&L Area Manager presented information on JCP&L’s storm process: how they prepare for a storm, roll out resources and manage outages and communication. He noted

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that JCP&L has spent \$200 million for improvements: new substations are coming on line, the distribution service is being improved, thermal visioning of lines is being implemented and proactive maintenance is being performed. Mr. Anderson stated that he would be addressing liability issues specific to Tewksbury and the Hell Mountain area.

A power point presentation was shown outlining the following issues.

Slide 1-There are 450,000 individual meters in the north Jersey region and JCP&L considers a major storm, of which there can be up to 20 annually, to impact 10% of the users. The recent wind event of 2/25/12 affected 15,000 customers, while the outages from Hurricane Irene numbered 300,000 and the October storm, which was the largest in JCP&L history, affected 380,000.

Mr. Anderson explained the preparation process for a storm and how conference calls help to determine the availability of needed resources and how to roll out crews and materials potentially from across the country. He added that when JCP&L is in storm mode, each person has a specific job to perform. Initially the crew will assess the damage and then send out hazard dispatchers and hazard responders.

He noted that there were no major safety instances in either storm of 2011.

Slide 2-This slide showed a diagram of where the electricity is generated, how it moves across transmission lines and then on to emergency services locations and finally into individual neighborhoods.

He added that crews will initially work on substations and transmission lines before moving to individual neighborhoods.

Slide 3 –This slide is a graphical representation regarding the length of a storm and the time needed to bring service back to affected customers.

Slide 4-This slide depicts how JCP&L has improved their communication with customers, police and OEM departments. He noted that JCP&L will be introducing a new system for outage management based on circuits which will now utilize tax boundaries as opposed to zip codes. He stated that this improvement should be on line within the next few months. This improvement will also help with giving customers a better estimate for restoration time.

In response to a question by Mayor Desiderio, Mr. Anderson stated that JCP&L replaced broken poles that were not theirs during the recent storms. He added that Tewksbury saw extensive damage from the two storms and there were 20 broken poles. There is a joint use agreement for use of the poles and when the extensive damage and tight resources came into play, JCP&L set poles where needed to step up the repair process a notch.

Slide 6- The substation is scheduled to go online in late 2012 and distribution lines are being fortified along Route 517 and throughout the Township. Mr. Anderson stressed that JCP&L is committed to Tewksbury and will work to give it the full reliability that it deserves. He added that \$1.6 billion has been spent since 2001 in the northern NJ region and \$165 million was spent on the two storms in 2011.

A map of the Township illustrates how the substation will service the residents. It was noted that the western portion of the Township receives power from the Lebanon substation, the

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southern and eastern portion from Greater Crossroads and the north-east portion from Peapack- Gladstone.

A pie chart illustrating outage information for the past two years shows that 42% are tree related.

Mr. Anderson addressed the tree trimming issue from the line off of Route 517 to Sawmill Road through the woods and up the mountain to Ridge Road and then to the Hell Mountain development. He noted the reliability issues, stressing that the matter needs to be addressed as a whole – the substation will be on line, but the existing tree conditions need to be addressed as well. Contrary to popular opinion, Mr. Anderson stressed that JCP&L “gets it” with regard to scenic beauty and preservation of trees. He noted that he is a Hunterdon County resident, a NJ state certified tree expert, has a Bachelor’s degree of Science - Landscape Architecture and understands working with the utility company. He stressed that a “balance” needs to be reached and no opinion is 100% right or wrong. He thanked the Mayor and Committee for the chance to have this open dialog with the residents.

Mr. Anderson explained that Tewksbury has suffered with poor electric reliability for years and there is an overdue need to trim trees for line clearance. He stressed that JCP&L has no intention of clear cutting, adding that Sawmill Road will remain scenic after the tree cutting. The targeted trees were leaning, diseased, had structural defects, were growing too close to the lines or were a non desired species. Mr. Anderson added that the area was so overgrown that the work had to be done in order to gain a level of reliability. He acknowledged that there still may be some outages, but JCP&L is committed to Tewksbury and providing safe and reliable electric power.

Don Richards, Senior Engineer noted that the lines that come from the Chester substation run 46,000 feet overhead to service the customers of Tewksbury. The new substation on Fox Hill Road will service the Township and the overhead line exposure will be reduced to 3500 feet as the lines will be connected directly into the substation. He added that the 230,000 volt power that is carried via a regulated interstate line has the highest reliability, the area under the towers is clear cut and there is little to no animal contact.

Mr. Anderson stressed that JCP&L is 100% committed to Tewksbury for all the right reasons and is committed to providing safe and reliable electric service. He stated to the Administrator and Committee that JCP&L will work diligently to strike a balance and that First Energy is firmly behind JCP&L to drive improvements and commit to the Township.

Mayor Desiderio stated that the Committee will be allowed to address Mr. Anderson and Mr. Richards initially, and then the public will allowed to ask questions. She stressed that this was a forum for discussion and answering questions.

In response to a question by Mr. DiMare, Mr. Anderson explained why putting wires underground would be a difficulty. He noted that a tariff is written that JCP&L and PSE&G are regulated as overhead utilities. He noted that if lines are underground in a subdivision, the cost is borne initially by the developer and then spread across the price of the new homes. JCP&L is not involved in this type of venture.

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Mr. Anderson added that if lines were to be relocated underground, the average cost would be ten times that of overhead installation and this is a matter not the purview of JCP&L.

Mr. DiMare suggested creating a program to start the process of moving lines underground now rather than continuing to replace poles, repair lines and cut trees.

Mr. Anderson reiterated that this is a matter much larger than JCP&L.

In response to a question by Dr. Voyce, Mr. Anderson stated that it is imperative for customers to call JCP&L to report an outage as the outage management system relies on the information to service calls.

In response to a question by Dr. Voyce, Mr. Anderson stated that the new substation will have redundancy as this is something Tewksbury needs. He noted that once the substation is on-line, the outage will be able to be isolated and the size of the outage will be able to be reduced. It was noted that the Hell Mountain area of the Township will receive power from the substation.

Mr. Richards noted that if the new substation were out or malfunctioning, other substations nearby would be manually switched for redundancy issues.

In response to a question by Mr. Melick, Mr. Richards reiterated that the new substation will feed Hell Mountain and the southern side of Old Turnpike Road to the center of Oldwick. Discussion followed regarding the power issues on the south side of Hell Mountain and how there is a difference in voltage (4800 vs. 12,500). Further discussion followed regarding the cost to rectify the power issues on Hell Mountain by addressing the lines on Hill and Dale Road. Mr. Richards estimated that the cost would be a few hundred thousand dollars and could entail work on Hill and Dale off of Route 517, setting higher poles, clearing trees, installing new transformers, scheduling outages and dealing with right of way issues.

Mr. Anderson reiterated the commitment that JCP&L has to Tewksbury adding his conviction that once the substation is on-line, line improvements are completed and tree removal continues reliability will improve within one year. He added that if reliability has not improved, further adjustments will be made.

In response to a question by Mr. Melick, Mr. Richards address the question of the quality of power as areas of Tewksbury have frequent brown outs. He noted that JCP&L is required by NJ Administrative Code to provide voltage within a certain range – the ideal being 120. Mr. Richards noted that if a customer loses an appliance due to trees falling on a wire or cars hitting a pole, JCP&L will not make reimbursement. If a customer loses an appliance due to an error by a lineman or employee, the claim may be honored. Mr. Richards explained the procedure for checking proper voltage if a customer thinks there is a problem.

In response to a question by Mr. Van Doren, Mr. Anderson stated that the residents would not have to wait a full year to see if the conditions on Hell Mountain improve. He stated that a few months should be sufficient once the substation is on line, adding that time period would be one year from right now.

Mr. Van Doren read portions of a letter from a resident on 3 Ridge Road outlining their frustration with countless outages-not always caused by bad weather- excessive tree cutting and the need to upgrade the service from Hill and Dale Road to Parsonage Lot Road.

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Mr. Anderson stated that outages on Hell Mountain were reviewed over a four year period and the outages were caused by a problem upstream from where substation will be. He stressed that JCP&L will do whatever is needed to correct the issues on Hell Mountain. In response to a question by Mr. van Doren, Mr. Anderson stated that based on the available knowledge today; there is nothing wrong with the underground wiring on Hell Mountain.

Further comments were made regarding the reverse IVR message that is transmitted to customers who register with JCP&L. Residents who utilize a well for drinking water and/or have special needs are urged to register so that important storm related information can be disseminated.

Mayor Desiderio stated that she recently rode with Superintendent of Public Works, Hayden Hull to look at various trees that have been cut under the lines.

She questioned if the language in the Resolution that was adopted in 2011 had been different, if the manner of tree cutting would have been changed.

Mr. Anderson stated that he was encouraged by the Resolution and applauded the Committee for seeing that trees needed to be removed in order to improve reliability. He stressed that no trees will be removed that should not adding that JCP&L is prepared to be diligent and professional and will work to provide safe and reliable electric power to the Township residents.

Charlie Daniels, Mayor of Califon Borough stated that he would like to hear the process for assessing damage and how this is tied to an estimated time for restoration. He noted that both his office and residents received incorrect information.

Mr. Anderson explained again how the damage assessment teams function in a normal situation. He apologized for incorrect information being disseminated, adding that the October storm was so severe, and even though JCP&L was in storm mode, the damage was so widespread, that communication was not optimal.

Beth Wolfmayer, a representative from Califon OEM noted that critical infrastructures were out in Califon for extended time periods and none of the facilities had generators for a backup power source.

Mr. Anderson reiterated that during a normal storm, emergency management locations would be restored first, but the severity of the 2011 storms was overwhelming to JCP&L crews. He reassured the public that JCP&L is dedicated to the residents of Tewksbury Township and Califon Borough and will be updating all contact information moving forward. He added that the new circuit running from the substation will feed Califon.

Mayor Daniels stated that he would like to see the documents that delineate municipalities by tax boundaries as opposed to zip code, adding that he saw a spread sheet that listed 200 roads in Califon, which clearly do not exist.

In response to a question by Blake Johnstone, Mr. Richards stated that the life expectancy for underground wiring is approximately 30 years.

Mr. Johnstone noted that the wiring on Hell Mountain is over 30 years old and he does not put a lot of faith in the substation being the answer to power outages specifically on Hell Mountain.

Mr. Richards reiterated that reduced line exposure and prudent tree trimming will make a clear impact on power outages in Tewksbury.

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Mr. Johnstone suggested that rather than continuing to trim trees, JCP&L should look into putting the lines underground as he did not feel that the monies involved would be excessive to JCP&L.

He also suggested that the power should be brought to Hell Mountain from the lines on the south side of Hill and Dale Road as he feels that the residents of the Hell Mountain area are tired of "living with the nightmare". He outlined instances where the power has been down and out for long periods of time with no satisfaction given as to when the power would be restored. He urged JCP&L to "use common sense" and to get power to Hell Mountain from both sides. In closing, he stated that JCP&L should "stop playing around with the idea that the substation will cure all" and they should correct the power issues on Hell Mountain.

Harold Wrede noted that his home on Alder Creek Drive is furnished by an underground utility and he experiences constant power failures. He outlined the number of outages since 2005 along with the run time and associated cost of powering his generator.

He noted a Labor Day animal associated event that he feels could have been dealt with more efficiently in order to avoid a prolonged outage.

He stressed that he felt that JCP&L did not have an emergency response mechanism, adding that he was without power for six days during the October snow storm and Route 517 was closed for four days-both of which he deemed unacceptable.

Mr. Anderson noted that Tewksbury started to identify key areas for tree maintenance in 2011 and JCP&L is working closely with the County and home owners to address the matter of tree maintenance. He stressed that JCP&L and Tewksbury need to strike the balance and work together on the issues in order to provide the residents with safe and reliable power.

In response to a question by Kurt Rahenkamp, Mr. Anderson stated that a resident will receive a call back from JCP&L once their power has been restored if so designated on the previously noted questionnaire.

He recalled an incident several summers ago when he was without power for five days and JCP&L stated that they were not notified of the matter even though Mr. Rahenkamp was sure that he had called it in. He added that he hoped JCP&L's system had improved since that incident.

George Cassa thanked Mr. Anderson and Mr. Richards for attending tonight's meeting and answering so many questions.

He asked if JCP&L could put together a map that shows an advance indication of vulnerable trees for maintenance. He surmised that having advance notification of cutting would be helpful to residents.

Mr. Anderson reiterated that JCP&L is committed to Tewksbury and he has personally advised the Mayor that they will notify the Committee and residents in advance of tree cutting. He added that he will gladly accompany residents and Committee members to view trees slated for maintenance, adding that enhanced communication is key.

Mr. Cassa noted that he saw that some ribbons had been removed from certain trees and thanked the Mayor for her diligence. He stated that he would like to see graphic representation of a utility vegetation plan so that residents have a heads up prior to trees being removed.

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He questioned if JCP&L had any obligation relative to historic preservation review and tree removal.

In response to a question by Mr. Cassa, Mr. Anderson stated that the proposed upgrades for Hell Mountain were limited to upgrades of light arresters, fuses and insulators.

Discussion followed regarding the matter of voltage incompatibility and the difference between a radial circuit design and a network system.

In response to a question by Mr. Cassa, Mr. Richards stated that JCP&L is not currently considering utilizing non toxic /fire resistant fueling at the new substation as the transformer is on site.

Robin Love outlined her experiences with the October snow storm and downed wires on Wildwood Road, stating that a live wire was on the roadway for three days. She expressed her concern with the dangerous situation adding that she felt the area was not safe for travel. She was unsure if the downed wire was live the entire time it was on the ground.

In response to a question by Ms. Love, Mr. Anderson stated that downed wires and the removal of branches from wires are the responsibility of JCP&L, although JCP&L does not own the trees. He apologized for the situation on Wildwood Road, adding that JCP&L had 32,000 trouble locations from the October snow storm. He stressed that an individual should never go near a downed wire.

Discussion followed regarding the fact that the utilities cooperate with each other with regard to pole replacement and service.

Ms. Love questioned the amount of tree cutting on Sawmill Road and Hell Mountain, stating that she understands the concept, but thinks that the pruning was too severe. She urged the Committee to follow up on with additional discussion and to rescind the afore mentioned Resolution regarding tree cutting. She thanked the Mayor for her work with JCP&L on the matter.

Mr. Anderson reassured Ms. Love that JCP&L will only remove trees that could affect reliability, overhang the lines, are damaged or are not compatible with the predominant species. He stated that Sawmill Road will remain scenic and bucolic in nature. He acknowledged that the Resolution adopted in 2011 was will help to bring Tewksbury into balance for improved reliability.

Ms. Love thanked Mr. Anderson for his work adding that she believed the 2011 Resolution should be rescinded because it did not clearly represent Tewksbury. She questioned why two specific trees in the lower Fairmount historic district on the south west corner of 517 and Sawmill Road were removed as she believed one to be directional pruned. Mr. Anderson explained that the two Norway maples should not have been planted where they were as they were growing into the three phase wires. He explained that they were not directionally pruned and if the top were opened and directional pruning was done, the trees would die.

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He stated that he would be happy to meet with other Township groups to talk about streetscapes and the need to encourage and educate property owners on correct tree planting.

In response to a question by Ed Kmiec, Mr. Anderson stated that he was unsure how much JCP&L has spent in Tewksbury and in Hunterdon County.

Mr. Kmiec questioned if it was fair to say that based on Tewksbury's low population, it would be at the end of line for repairs.

Mr. Anderson stressed that restoration of service is solely based on the size of the outage and when the outage occurs, not on the population or geographical location of the municipality.

In response to a question by Mr. Kmiec, Mr. Richards stated that power to the substation will not be dependent on the Chester substation, but will only be dependent on the electrical transmission lines that run through the Township.

Vin Godleski stated that the workers from out of state were very good. He explained the problem that occurred at his home on Farmersville Road when power was out for nine days and then a subsequent fire occurred.

John Zayankowski stated that JCP&L needs to "catch up" in Tewksbury and when there is an outage, crews need to address problems in Tewksbury first.

In response to an assertion made by Mr. Zayankowski, Mr. Anderson stated that it is not up to the Mayor to decide where JCP&L crews will work: this is based solely on JCP&L's review of outages.

In response to a question by Mr. Zayankowski, Mr. Anderson reiterated that JCP&L has spent \$5 million on the substation and several hundred thousand dollars on tree removal.

Discussion followed as to why it is important for customers to call in outages to JCP&L.

Mr. Zayankowski stated that JCP&L should get an exception from the state so that the underground tariff could be removed.

In response to a question by Mr. Zayankowski, Mr. Anderson stated that no monies were reimbursed to JCP&L for the storm related expenses.

Mr. Zayankowski questioned if JCP&L would be at another Committee meeting to discuss additional improvements. Mayor Desiderio explained that Mr. Anderson will deal directly with the Mayor, Committee and staff and then information will be disseminated to the residents, or the residents are invited to contact the Mayor directly.

Teddy Murphy stated that JCP&L needs to work on their communication with residents. She noted that during the recent storms, she was without electric power, telephone and cable television and thus had no way of receiving updates from JCP&L. She added that Century Link actually came to her home to confirm that telephone service had been restored.

Wilma Frey urged the Committee to rescind the Resolution adopted in 2011 as it does not express what Tewksbury wants in terms of vegetation management. She agreed that moderate periodic pruning is needed, but the removal of big trees is "unforgivable on a scenic road". She stressed that she felt the removal of invasive vines should be done in concert with tree trimming, adding that what makes a road scenic is what is happening in the right of way.

Paul Zanelli agreed with statements made by Ms. Frey with regard to invasive vines. He noted that he is the Chief of the Tewksbury Rescue Squad and was on all the roads in the Township

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during the storms and assured the audience that JCP&L was working on the Sunday and Monday of the October snow storm. He agreed that JCP&L is not cutting down unnecessary trees, but they are performing maintenance in order to clear the lines and there are still plenty of trees in the Township.

He noted that Sawmill Road is still a very scenic road and with a proper forest management plan, the Township can continue to be bucolic and scenic.

To correct a statement made by Mr. Zayankoski Mr. Richards assured the public that Mr. Anderson does not receive any favors from JCP&L with regard to power restoration.

In response to a question by Mr. Kmiec, Mr. Anderson stated that the power company will not reimburse customers for costs incurred due to an act of God. Reimbursements will be made if the problem was caused by negligence on the part of an employee.

Mayor Desiderio thanked Mr. Richards and Mr. Anderson for coming to the meeting and explaining the process to the public.

A letter will be sent to Mr. Anderson as requested by the Committee at the 2/14/12 meeting to have JCP&L supply information as to where and when additional tree cutting is to occur along with a written plan showing street by street detail.

5. Township Committee Comments

Mr. Melick stated that he would like to have a discussion during an upcoming work session to discuss the Board of Education and related issues with regard to the county plan.

Mayor Desiderio noted the following matters.

- The Forestry Advisory Board will be invited to the 04/24/12 Township Committee to discuss their concerns.
- The former Chair of the Scenic Roads and Bridges Commission requested that two high school age youth liaisons be appointed to the Commission. Kurt Rahenkamp will contact the schools to see if there is anyone interested in the project.
- She recently spoke with Eileen Swan from the Highlands Council regarding the needed steps that the Township needs to take with regard to opting in to the planning area and conforming with the Master Plan. A copy of Ms. Swan's response will be forwarded to the Committee members.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Roberta A. Brassard
Municipal Clerk