

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 1, 2010

A special meeting of Township Committee was held on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the Princeton Township Municipal Complex, 400 Witherspoon Street. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Leaf Management Program.

### **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Clerk read the following statement.

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting. Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of a written notice. On January 12, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, the Town Topics, and filed with the Township Clerk.

### **ROLL CALL**

The Township Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mayor Miller and Mesdames Lempert and Nemeth and Mr.Liverman.

Absent: Mr. Goerner.

Also Present: Messrs Hansen, Kiser & Pascale.

### **Leaf Management Program**

Mayor Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Ms. Lempert gave an introduction saying that this was to open up a dialogue on this issue and improve compliance.

Donald Hansen, Superintendent of Public Works began by saying that that the goal of the current leaf management program was to keep our streets clean and safe. He gave a history of the Township's programs and detailed the current program noting that what is done is time consuming. Mr. Hansen said that there where three leaf pickups this year when there are usually two.

Matthew Wasserman, Environmental Commission, said that the objectives were to keep the streets clean and children safe. He said that residents are overwhelmed by leaves and if they miss a

pickup it makes the problem worse. He suggested further educating residents about the leaf pickup and having an Environmental “Geek” squad to help with the education process.

The meeting was then opened for public comment.

Cynthia Cross, 21 Andrews Lane asked how people knew there was a third collection. She said that people do not hold onto their schedule from January and that they need to get information in a timelier manner. Mr. Hansen said that the brush schedule begins in March noting that there is no winning with “Mother Nature”. Mr. Pascale said that we are living in a digital age and that we have technology to utilize and follow up with emails and phone calls.

A resident said that the Township needs better enforcement and needs to get people’s attention. He said that people need to be more educated as to how to use leaf bags.

The issue of adjusting the pickup schedule was brought up by another resident. He said that the first pickup is too early and that he did not know about the third pickup. He said that there needs to be an ability to adjust the schedule on the fly and look at the areas that need more enforcement and issue tickets to residents who are not in compliance.

Mr. Hansen said that there is no other alternative but to pick up leaves October through December. We try to be fair, he said, but that’s when the leaves fall.

Roger Dinella, Terhune Road said that people should discuss their lot size when they discuss leaves. All the environmental suggestions do not work. He said that have to train people in Princeton how to do leaves.

Dale Meade said that the Princeton program has flexibility and tries to get the leaves picked up at the proper time. He said that residents have to plan around the schedule noting that it would be chaos if the scheduled were changed deep into the fall. Mr. Meade said that he would hate to see a drastic change in the current system.

Ms. Nemeth asked that a third pickup be factored in areas that are heavy with leaves, noting that it is really hard when there are only two pick ups.

February 1, 2010

3

Dan Emann, Landscaper said that he tries to be in compliance and is in favor of warnings and education for residents.

Mr. Liverman said thanked the Township for the leaf program that we do have. He did say that it was demanding on the seniors.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott  
Township Clerk