



# JEFF GRAYZEL

## MORRIS TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

**EMAIL UPDATE**

Vol. 1 No. 6 ~ November 18, 2007

**IMPORTANT -- PLEASE NOTE:**

Your privacy is important. If you do not wish to receive emails from Jeff Grayzel, please click the unsubscribe link on the bottom of this page and your email address will be removed within 48 hours. Thank you.

### **Newsletter #3**

Dear Neighbors,

I am pleased to be sending you this third newsletter since my swearing in as a Morris Township Committeeman five months ago. I will be sending newsletters containing highlights and some commentary monthly after each Township Committee meeting in order to keep you informed of happenings in our municipality. If you did not see the first 2 newsletters I sent out, then you can view them on my website at [www.JeffGrayzel.com](http://www.JeffGrayzel.com)

### **Tribute to 40 years of service...**

The Township Committee meeting that took place last Wednesday, November 7 opened with the presentation of a certificate of recognition to Harold Hathaway, who has been an employee of the Morris Township Department of Public Works for 40 years. The Township Committee presented Mr. Hathaway with a framed copy of a congratulatory proclamation. My congratulations to Harold for his service to Morris Township.



### **Ordinances...**

This meeting had very short agenda. The first item was the introduction of an ordinance to create a handicapped parking space on a specific street in town. This will probably receive a final vote at our next meeting.

The second item was to have been a formal vote on an "ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS ADDING SECTION 57-164, DEVELOPMENT FEES FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO CHAPTER 57 'LAND DEVELOPMENT'." However, the mayor postponed the vote on this until a future meeting.

The third ordinance discussed was one that was not on the agenda, and discussion actually occurred after the township committee returned from closed session. I mention it at this point for the purpose of keeping all the ordinances listed together. This ordinance was for the purchase of approximately 15 acres of land on Mt Kemble Ave at the southern end of Morris Township for a recreation complex (plan is for two soccer fields). Final discussions on the wording of the ordinance had to be discussed in closed session prior to introducing it to the public. This ordinance will now be publicly noticed in the newspaper and voted on at the next meeting. The public will have a chance to ask questions and make comments prior to the final vote.

### **Public Commentary...**

At every meeting there is a "public commentary" portion where any citizen can make a statement concerning anything related to Township matters. The people who spoke last Wednesday night made comments relating to:

» One citizen questioned the Twp Committee on the re-designation of the planning area status of certain parts of the Township (for submission to the NJ State Development map). He asked why the township had made certain designations.

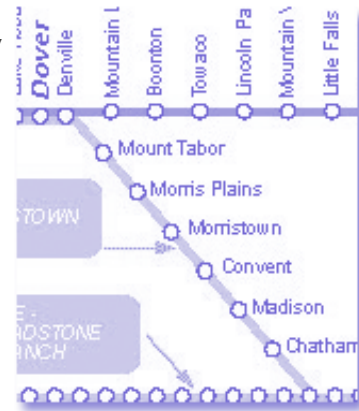
» Another citizen pointed out that the "Highlands" overlay zone covered parts of Morris Township, and asked that this be taken into consideration by the Township in their submission to the NJ State Development map.

### Jeff's Comments...

The final portion of the meeting allows for each member of the Township Committee to make any general comments they please. I made the following two comments:

» I had received a resident letter about parking at Convent train station for train service to Wednesday matinee performances in NY City. This is an ongoing issue that we need to find a solution to. We will continue to examine alternatives to ease the problem.

» I then commented on the just-completed election. I congratulated all of our citizens who made the effort to vote. I then offered the opinion that the "election cycle" is the time of year when many people get to focus on the issues relating to Morris Township. I thanked both candidates Mr. Goldberg and Mr. Caffrey on running fine races and for raising the level of consciousness in our community.



### Other Commentary...

Other members of the Township Committee had these comments:

» Kathleen Hyland commented on our municipal recycling efforts, and the fact that we recycle the second most material in all of Morris County. She asked that residents be reminded of the importance of recycling, and of all the types of recyclable material allowed. Jeff pointed out that increasing recycling would also reduce the amount the municipality would pay to haul it away if it those recyclable materials were placed in regular garbage. So in addition to actually getting paid for our recyclable materials, we also save on garbage disposal fees.

» Rick Watson congratulated Ron Goldberg as being the probable winner of the election, and said he looked forward to working with him in the upcoming year.

### Closed Session...

The Township Committee then recessed into "closed session" which occurs when there are legal or personnel matters that cannot be discussed in public. Minutes of the closed session are released to the public when the matters discussed are resolved. The Township Attorney John Mills announced at the meeting (prior to recessing into closed session) that the closed session would deal with open space property acquisition and union negotiations. As so happened, after the closed session was finished, the Township Committee returned to public session and introduced the ordinance described earlier to acquire a 15-acre parcel for open space acquisition.

### About the Election...

As you know, Ron Goldberg won the election to Morris Township Committee in a very close race which had the final vote count of 2,803 for Mr. Goldberg and 2,768 for Mr. Caffrey. I congratulate Mr. Goldberg on his election and very much look forward to working with him on the Township Committee next year.

Ron Goldberg's Swearing-in ceremony will take place on Wednesday January 2nd at 7:00pm at municipal hall. The event precedes the first Township Committee meeting of 2008. The public is of course welcome to attend both events. Please mark your calendars!

### **The Next Meeting...**

The next Township Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 19th. Please attend. Your presence improves the quality of the proceedings, and your questions require the Township Committee to be responsive to our citizens.

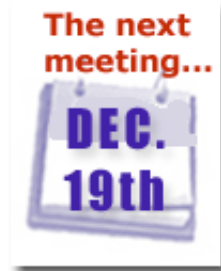
I may not have a chance to communicate with you again before the Thanksgiving holiday, so let me take this opportunity to wish you a happy and safe holiday.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail on to others.

If you know someone who would like to subscribe, then please have them contact [Jeff](#).

Sincerely,  
Jeff Grayzel  
*Committeeman, Morris Township Committee*

***If you would like to be removed from this newsletter mailing list, please click the unsubscribe link on the bottom of this page.***



[Jeff's Web Site](#) | [Contact Jeff](#)

©2007 Jeff Grayzel