

**The Public Meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council was called to order at 7:01 pm by Council President Nicastro.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**MOMENT OF REFLECTION in recognition of the men and women fighting terrorism and those who have lost their lives defending the freedom we all enjoy**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Miss Masser:** According to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been given to the Daily Record. Notice has been posted in the Municipal Building, 204 Flanders-Drakestown Road, Mount Olive Township, New Jersey and notices were sent to those requesting the same.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mr. Amianda, Mrs. Labow, Mr. Roman, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Ferrante and Mr. Nicastro

**Absent:** Mr. Mania

**Also Present:** Michelle Masser, Township Clerk; Susan Gouveia, Deputy Township Clerk; Fred Semrau, Township Attorney; Laura Harris, Business Administrator and Robert Greenbaum, Mayor

**President Nicastro:** First off, I'd like to recognize a few people, former Mayor Paul Licitra is in the audience there, we have Howie Weiss, Chair of the Planning Board, Joe Fleischner on the Planning Board, Gene Buczynski, our Engineer, Michael Obremski from JCP&L and Chief Spitzer is here, as well.

**Mayor Greenbaum:** Dave Scapicchio.

**Mr. Roman:** David Scapicchio.

**President Nicastro:** Dave Scapicchio.

**Mayor Greenbaum:** Former Mayor, former Freeholder.

**President Nicastro:** Former Mayor, former Freeholder, that's right. I didn't see you there. Alright, we have the swearing in right now of the Mayor and the Council.

**Swearing in of:**

**Mayor Robert Greenbaum**

**Mayor Greenbaum:** Halle gets to hold the Bible. Left hand on the Bible, right hand?

**Miss Masser:** Raise your right hand.

**Mr. Semrau and Robert Greenbaum:** I, Robert Greenbaum, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people; and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Mayor of Mount Olive Township to the best of my ability, so help me God.

**Mr. Semrau:** Congratulations.

**Mayor Greenbaum:** Thank you very much.

**Mrs. Labow:** His wife, his daughter.

**Mr. Stewart:** Big fumble.

**Mr. Roman:** You're Jewish, you're allowed.

**Swearing in of:  
Councilman Joe Nicastro**

**President Nicastro:** You stand there.

**Mr. Roman:** You're Catholic, you can't do that.

**Miss Masser:** Raise your right hand.

**Miss Masser and Mr. Nicastro:** I, Joe Nicastro, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people; and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Mount Olive Township Councilman to the best of my ability, so help me God.

**Mrs. Labow:** I'm up.

**Mr. Semrau:** You can't take a selfie.

**Mrs. Labow:** No.

**Mr. Roman:** Let me put my phone away then.

**Mr. Semrau:** ...selfie stick.

**Swearing in of:  
Councilwoman Colleen Labow**

**Mr. Semrau and Mrs. Labow:** I, Colleen Labow, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people; and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Councilwoman for the Township of Mount Olive to the best of my ability, so help me God.

**Mr. Semrau:** Congratulations.

**Swearing in of:  
Councilman Alex Roman**

**Miss Masser:** Raise your right hand please.

**Miss Masser and Mr. Roman:** I, Alex Roman, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people; and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Mount Olive Township Councilman to the best of my ability, so help me God.

**Miss Masser:** Congratulations.

**Swearing in of:  
Councilman Gregory Stewart**

**Mr. Semrau and Mr. Stewart:** I, Gregory Stewart, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people; and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Councilman for the Township of Mount Olive to the best of my ability, so help me God.

**Mr. Semrau:** Congratulations.

**Mr. Stewart:** Thank you.

**Election of 2016 Council President**

**President Nicastro:** Alright, next item on the Agenda is Election of 2016 Council President. Do we have a nomination for President?

**Mrs. Labow:** I nominate Joe Nicastro.

**Mr. Amianda:** Second.

**President Nicastro:** Do we have any other nominations? Seeing none. Roll Call, please.

**ROLL CALL:** **Passed unanimously**

**Election of 2016 Council Vice-President**

**President Nicastro:** Nomination for Vice President. Do we have a nomination for Vice President?

**Mrs. Labow:** Alex Roman.

**Mr. Amianda:** Second.

**President Nicastro:** Do we have any other nominations? Seeing none. Roll Call, please.

**ROLL CALL:** **Passed unanimously**

**President Nicastro:** Congratulations.

**Invocation – Pastor Matt Jones**

**President Nicastro:** We have to switch the seats. It’s like musical chairs.

**Mr. Roman:** I have to adjust this one.

**President Nicastro:** We got...

**Mr. Roman:** Hold on while I pump this one up a little more.

**President Nicastro:** At this time I have the pleasure of introducing Pastor Matt Jones to do our Invocation.

**Pastor Jones:** Why don’t we pray together? Our Father, we thank you so much that you’ve seen us through another year. Lord, you have blessed us and Lord, you have given us the grace to deal with difficult things, Lord, for the folks that are in our community. We thank you Lord that we can meet their needs and provide for the needs that are in our community. Father, we just pray Lord God, that you would give grace Lord, to our Mayor and to our Town Council and to our Town employees. Lord, we ask you Lord God, that you would give creativity, Lord, you give inspiration and Father and you give strategy Lord, for another year. We ask your blessings and we acknowledge our dependence upon you. We ask it in Christ’s name. Amen.

**Mrs. Labow:** Amen.

**President Nicastro:** Amen. Thank you. Mayor, you have appointments. Would you like to read the appointments?

**Mayor Greenbaum:** You can do it.

**President Nicastro:** Okay, thank you. We have Mayor’s appointments.

**Appointments:**

a. **Mayor’s Appointments**

**Morris County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee**

Kathy Murphy, Member, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016

Richard Escobar, Alternate, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016

**Planning Board**

Howie Weiss, Class IV, 4 year term expires 12/31/2019  
Scott Van Ness, Member Class II, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
Nelson Russell, Mayor’s Alt, 4 year term expires 12/31/19

Henry Fastert Member Class IV, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
Kim Mott, Alt. I Class IV, 2 year term expires 12/31/2017  
John Batsch, Alt. II Class IV, 2 year unexpired term 12/31/16

**Environmental Committee**

Robert Delpizzo, Alt. II, 3 year term 12/31/2017  
Tracy Wadhams, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
Joe Fleischner, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
Henry Fastert, 3 year term expiring 12/31/2018

**Open Space Committee**

Robert Delpizzo, 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Jill Devlin, 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Karen Shunk, (Recreation Committee Liaison) 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Gray Tuttle, 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Tracy Wadhams, 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Mayor Robert Greenbaum, 4 year term expires 12/31/19

**President Nicastro read the Mayor’s Appointments**

**President Nicastro:** Mayor’s Appointments with Advice and Consent of Council. Michelle, would you like to read those?

**Miss Masser:** I need a motion.

**President Nicastro:** We need a motion on those to accept the Mayor’s appointments.

**Mrs. Labow:** So moved.

**Mr. Amianda:** Second.

**President Nicastro:** Any discussion? Roll Call.

**Mr. Roman:** The only correction I have is we have it down as Gray Tuttle, I believe its Gary Tuttle.

**President Nicastro:** I was questioning that.

**Mrs. Labow:** No, it’s Gray.

**President Nicastro:** It is Gray?

**Miss Masser:** It’s Gray.

**Mrs. Labow:** It’s Gray.

**Miss Masser:** His name’s Gray.

**ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously**

**Miss Masser:** Sure, I’ll do them.

**President Nicastro:** You can do those.

b. **Mayor's Appointments with Advice & Consent of Council**

**Township Attorney,** Fred Semrau, Esq., 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Judge,** Brian Levine, JMC, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
**Prosecutor,** Brian Mason, Esq., 1 year term expires 12/31/2016

**Public Defender**, Anthony Abores Esq., 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Township Consulting Engineer**, Eugene Buczynski, 2 year term expires 12/31/2017  
**Business Administrator**, Laura Harris, 4 year term expires 12/31/2019  
**Director of DPW**, Tim Quinn, 4 year term expires 12/31/2019  
**Director of Health**, Trevor Weigle, 4 year term expires 12/31/2019

**Economic Development Committee**

Raffaele (Ralph) Ruggiero, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
John Cavanaugh, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
Tracy Wadhams, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018

**Ethics Committee**

Bob Correale, Esq., 5 year term expires 12/31/2020  
Aaron Allen, 5 year term expires 12/31/2020

**Recreation Advisory Committee**

Amanda Fink, 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Noelle Kehrley, unexpired 3 year term expires 12/31/16  
Arthur Punia, 3 year term expires 12/31/18  
Karen Shunk / McConnell, 3 year term expires 12/31/18

**Library Board**

Kathryn Criscuolo, Mayor's Alt. 5 year term expires 12/31/20  
Peter Hughes, Superintendent's Alt. 5 year term expires 12/31/20  
Diane Lapsley, 5 year unexpired term expires 12/31/18

**Miss Masser read the Mayor's Appointments with Advice & Consent of Council**

**President Nicastro:** Do we have a motion to accept those?

**Mrs. Labow:** So moved.

**Mr. Ferrante:** Second.

**President Nicastro:** Any discussion? None. Roll Call, please.

**ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously**

**Miss Masser:** Do you want to do the Council Appointments?

**President Nicastro:** You can.

c. **Council Appointments**

**All Subcommittees of the Township Council previously created are extended through 2016:**

**Library Board Liaison**, John Ferrante, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Recreation Board Liaison**, Alex Roman, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Board of Education Liaison**, Daniel Amianda, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Legislative Committee**, John Mania, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Committee RE: Lake/Environment Issues**, John Ferrante, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee**, Steven Rattner, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Economic Development Committee Liaison**, Colleen Labow, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Planning Board**, John Mania, Member Class II, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Senior Citizen Liaison**, Daniel Amianda, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**TNR Liaison**, Colleen Labow, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Open Space Committee Liaison**, Alex Roman, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016  
**Mt. Olive TV Liaison**, Greg Stewart, 1 year term expires 12/31/2016

**Township Clerk**, Michelle Masser, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018  
**Deputy Township Clerk**, Susan Gouveia, 2 year term expires 12/31/2017  
**Court Administrator**, Michelle Armbrrecht, 2 year term expires 12/31/2017

**Board of Health**

Board of Health Chairman, Joe Nicastro (Councilmember), 2 year term expires 12/31/2017

Dr. Steve Abrams, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018

Dr. Charles Wallack, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018

Dr. Anthony Miccio, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018

Dr. Kenneth Ross, 3 year term expires 12/31/2018

**Miss Masser read the Council Appointments**

**President Nicastro:** Do we have a motion to accept?

**Mrs. Labow:** So moved.

**President Nicastro:** Second, someone?

**Mr. Ferrante:** Second.

**President Nicastro:** Any discussion? None. Roll Call, please.

**ROLL CALL:           Passed unanimously**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Consent Resolutions Agenda:**

Resolutions on Consent Agenda List are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Township Council and will be approved by one motion (one vote). There will be no separate discussion or debate on each of these resolutions except for the possibility of brief clarifying statements which may be offered. If one or more council members requests, any individual resolution on the consent agenda may be removed from the Consent Agenda List and acted on separately.

1. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Designating the Official Newspapers of the Municipality for the Purpose of Publication of Legal Notices. PDF Resolution
2. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing the Annual Schedule of Meetings and Other Requirements Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. PDF Resolution
3. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing a Temporary Budget for 2016 for the Current, Water, Sewer and Recreation Utility as well as the Sanitation District. PDF Resolution
4. Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing a Cash Management Plan for the Township of Mount Olive for the Year 2016. PDF Resolution
5. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing Participation in the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for the Year 2016. PDF Resolution
6. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Purchase of Necessary Goods and Services Under Any Contract Competitively Bid by the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council. PDF Resolution
7. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing Various Change Funds for the Year 2016. PDF Resolution
8. Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Cancellation of Water, Sewer, Sewer Assessment and Tax Receivable Overpayments and Balances \$1.00 or Less. PDF Resolution
9. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Establishing a Petty Cash Fund for 2016. PDF Resolution
10. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Fixing the Rate of Interest to be Charged on Delinquent Taxes or Assessments. PDF Resolution

11. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Tax Assessor and/or the Township Attorney to File and Tax Appeals/Rollbacks. PDF Resolution
12. A Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive, In the County of Morris and State of New Jersey. Authorizing the Execution of an Employment Agreement with Laura Harris. PDF Res
13. Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Mount Olive Appointing Steven Rattner as Council Representative to the Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee. PDF Resolution
14. Resolution of the Township of Mount Olive Authorizing the Use of Various Purchasing Contracts. PDF Resolution

**President Nicastro:** We have 14 Resolutions. Someone move the Resolutions please. Let's see, Mr. Stewart, will you move the Resolutions?

**Mr. Stewart:** I move that the Consent for Resolutions one through...

**Mrs. Labow:** Fourteen.

**Mr. Stewart:** ...fourteen for approval.

**Mr. Roman:** Second.

**President Nicastro:** Any discussion? Anyone from the public? Seeing none from the public. Closed to the public. Roll Call, please.

**ROLL CALL: Passed unanimously**

**President Nicastro:** At this time, we have the Mayor's State of the Township Address. I'd also like to recognize Freeholder Deborah Smith came in I believe, I saw her come in. Hello.

**Freeholder Deborah Smith:** Happy New Year all. I can't stay.

**President Nicastro:** Happy New Year.

#### **Mayor's State of the Township Address**

**Mayor Greenbaum:** You ready Joe? I don't know that you noticed that Jim Gannon also walked in.

**President Nicastro:** I did not see that.

**Mayor Greenbaum:** Jim is one of our favorite law enforcement individuals in Morris County and he is very active in terms of coming to as many events as he can and also President of the 200 Club at this point, correct? Congratulations on that Jim. At the outset, before I go start with the State of the Mount Olive Township address for 2016, I'd like to congratulate Joe Nicastro, Alex Roman, Colleen Labow and Greg Stewart on their re-election this year. I think it was a testament to the job that we've all done, that we ran unopposed through both the Primary and the General Election. It's been a pleasure working with all of you and I look forward to working with you again for the next period of time.

Council President, members of the Town Council, municipal employees, friends, relatives and fellow residents of Mount Olive, I once again thank you for the opportunity to report on the State of the Township of Mount Olive for this year, 2016.

At the outset, I want to thank the residents of Mount Olive for electing me to lead this Town as Mayor for another four years. I am very excited about where we have come from in my first term as Mayor and where we are going in my second term.

Of course, everything we have achieved would not have been possible but for the work and support of the Governing Body. I would like to thank Joe Nicastro for his leadership in 2015 and look forward to working with him again next year in 2016. I congratulate Joe on his appointment to a second term as Council President and thank him and the rest of the Town Council for their support and tireless effort to attend as many events in Town as possible.

Through our conservative financial management, smart spending and our efforts of attracting new businesses to Mount Olive, for the third consecutive year, the budget that I will be submitting to the Council will have no municipal tax increase. I am also satisfied and pleased to report that the surplus regeneration projections for 2017 leave the Township in a sound fiscal position for next year's budget as well.

As you all know, this year we will be starting and completing the splash pad up at Turkey Brook Park. The project was entirely funded in last year's budget. In 2016, rather than spending significant money on recreation improvements, we will be focusing on infrastructure maintenance, namely road repaving in areas of Town which sorely need a fresh coat of asphalt. Sound familiar Dave?

**Mr. Scapicchio:** It does. I love it Rob.

**Mayor Greenbaum:** The budget I am submitting to Council this year will include an allocation for four times the amount of money which I have normally allocated to fix the roads in Town.

During my first term as Mayor, the Township was fortunate to have strong leadership provided by our Business Administrator, Sean Canning. I feel equally as confident that our new Business Administrator, Laura Harris will provide the same level of leadership and dedication that Sean provided the Township under his stewardship.

When this Administration took office in January of 2012, we recognized that there was a disconnect between the municipal government and the residents. This was all due to the failure of the government to adequately communicate with the residents. One of the greatest successes that we had during my first Mayoral term was to fix the communication problem.

I can tell you that, as an anecdote, that when someone comes up to me and says you're doing a great job in Mount Olive, it's always, we know what's going on. You communicate with us. I hear it from other people in other towns that they wish their governments communicated in the same manner that we do. In 2015, through Facebook, radio, newspaper, signs, flyers and any other media we could think of, we have communicated over 6,500 announcements, events, programs, pet adoptions, and job opportunities. We continue to inform our residents, as well as those residents in the surrounding towns - our reach has increased between 12,000-21,000 people weekly. Mount Olive continues to be the point location for developers, Chamber of Commerce, County College of Morris and Morris County, leading always by example. We have set the standards high and continue to think outside of the box to welcome many more eating establishments, businesses and families to move into Mount Olive Township.

The Administration also continues to work with existing and new businesses through our outreach program to truly make Mount Olive business friendly.

We are also diligently working on development matters in the Trade Zone which may positively impact the Town for years to come. We are also working with the Board of Education on joint opportunities to improve Town facilities.

Our **Finance Department** once again had major accomplishments in 2015. In addition to allowing me to submit a 2016 municipal budget without a tax increase, some of the Finance Department's accomplishments included:

- No audit recommendations for the 2014 audit. I guess the 2015 audit. This was the seventh year in a row with no audit recommendations, which is an incredible feat.
- A tax collection rate which is over 99 percent.
- An increase in 2016 NVT by over \$35 million from 2015.
- Minimal state tax court appeals with only nine.
- Successfully defended 103 county appeals resulting in 67 complaints being withdrawn and only a 3.7 percent net reduction in total assessments appealed.
- Received added/omitted assessment revenue of \$1,639,000.00 of which the Township kept \$1,479,000.00.
- Issued debt at an all-time low of .65 percent and refunded 2005/2006 bonds and saved the Township approximately \$175,000.00.

As in past years, the **Parks, Buildings & Grounds division of Administration** had many events, projects and normal routine maintenance in 2015 which kept them quite busy. The department added two full time staff members in 2015 and saw productivity increase from 1,681 work orders in 2014 to nearly 4,000 work orders in 2015. Significant accomplishments and events for the department included:

- 21 recreation events.
- Hosted softball and baseball tournaments on a District, State and Regional level. The tournaments filled local hotels and eateries, as well as allowing guests from up to seven states to experience the level of excellence which our facilities present.
- Hosted the second largest "Food Trucks and Fireworks" festival in northwestern NJ. An estimated 8,000 - 10,000 people attended.
- Hosted the annual Mount Olive Week Carnival.
- Hosted the Mount Olive Police Department Corn Hole Tournament.
- Hosted the 26th annual Mount Olive Soccer Club Tournament.
- Designed and built characters for the holiday display at the Mount Olive Municipal Complex.
- Decorated and managed the annual Christmas tree and Chanukah lighting ceremonies.
- Hosted the third annual Mount Olive Lacrosse Club tournament.
- Maintained 2,000 acres of Open Space, historic structures and municipal infrastructure.
- Continued to expand and maintain the trail network and added kiosks to trails.

**The Information Technology Department** under the leadership of Scott Gaskill, it's a very small IT Department, he's both the leader and the sole employee.

**Mr. Roman:** He's the "I".

**Mayor Greenbaum:** He is the "I". Lowered our operating expense through increased vigilance over outside IT service providers of tens of thousands of dollars. In addition some of the projects which Scott oversaw and implemented included the:

- Buyout of the remaining months on our Avaya maintenance contract, which covers our current PBX phone system.
- Installation of new switches and an IP based phone system for all township employees.
- Supply of virtual voice mailboxes for all township employees.
- The installation of an add-on surveillance system at Turkey Brook consisting of 20 cameras located at the maintenance garage, park fields, tot lot, park entrance/exit ways, and some of the parking areas.

The **Department of Public Works** had substantial accomplishments for 2015 as well. These included:

- 2015 road resurfacing consisting of replacement of drainage, 14 cross drains, 21 storm drains, 12,000 linear feet of drain pipe and resurfacing of over 6,000 feet of lower River Road with section widening and a new retaining wall. Other resurfacing covered Main Street in Flanders, Crease Road and a section of Sand Shore Road.
- Removal of 100 dead or hazardous trees from the township right of way. Cleared three overgrown retention basins with new bobcat brush hog equipment.
- Sanitation successfully established garbage collection within Chester Borough, one of our shared service opportunities, including household, dumpster service and large item pickup. The large item sticker program has had a revenue return of over \$25,000.00.

- Revamped the residential recycling center to be more resident friendly for drop off of recyclable materials.
- The Water Department has installed a low water monitoring system on the Oakwood Water System, which will be expanded to all township water systems in 2016, hopefully avoiding the problems that we had up at Oakwood this year on two occasions.
- We also acquired the Morris Chase Water System from American Water to lower residential water rates on that system and to assist in water supply within the Goldmine Estates water area.
- DPW also installed a 300,000 gallon holding tank at the Flanders Sewer Plant for additional holding capacity at the plant to allow the construction of Regency at Flanders, which I understand is selling like hotcakes.

**Fleet Maintenance** accomplishments included:

- Continuation of the Fleet Master Plan established in 2014 that eliminates older costlier vehicles and replaces them with more efficient and more dependable vehicles.
- Improved upon the “truck boilerplate” developed in 2014 that will continue to streamline parts ordering and labor times. This will result in lowered operating costs for years to come.
- Fleet staffing levels that have been brought to their optimum levels. With the hiring of a technician that has transmission experience, we will be able to keep even more work in house and continue to strive towards 100 percent of in-house repairs.
- Both of the Senior Transit vehicles were replaced and will provide a much superior experience for our riders.
- Made repairs in-house on one of our street sweepers that resulted in a savings of over \$100,000.00.

The **Recreation Department** held 18 special events in 2015 with more than 47,000 attendees, 122 business sponsors and over 100 volunteer participants. Eight new events debuted, which included the Snow & Ice Party, Lego Festival, Wet & Wild, Touch-a-Truck, Food Trucks & Fireworks, Starry Skies Craft Beer and Wine Festival and the Blanket & Coat Drive. Popular favorites were also held – the Do or Dye Color Run, Power Wheels Race Series, Fairy & Pirate Festival, Raiders of the Lost Park Mud Run, Mount Olive Week Carnival, three Movies in the Park and of course the Monster Mash 3K and CandyLand.

3,151 adults participated in 119 programs and 3,155 children participated in 160 programs during the year. Over 20 summer camps were held in July and August.

Budd Lake Park has a new accessible Fishing Dock. Equishare at Valley Brook is making improvements to Valley Brook Park to develop an equestrian center.

On March 10, 2015, the Township received an award for Excellence in Design for Mount Playmore from the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association.

For 2016, five new events are planned. We are all looking forward to the opening of the Pirates Cove at Mount Playmore Splash Park and several new technology based programs for children.

The **Planning Department** was actively engaged in a number of projects in 2015 beyond the typical responsibilities to assist the general public with questions concerning zoning and enforcement of the Township’s Land Use Ordinance.

Site plan applications approved by the Planning Board in 2015 included: use variance/site plan approval to utilize a building on Sand Shore Road as a microbrewery; use variance/site plan approval was granted to construct a service station at the intersection of Sand Shore Road and Route 46; two separate site plan applications involved the construction of automobile dealerships on Route 46 and Harris Lane and the Board granted preliminary site plan and use variance approval to construct a second story office building at 354 Route 46.

Rezoning is proposed for FTZ-4 district, including the former BASF complex to permit residential use. New mixed-use and residential development is anticipated.

The **Mount Olive Municipal Court** in 2015 accepted a total of 334 indictable charges, 924 disorderly persons offenses, 430 local ordinance violations, 144 DWI charges and 5,911 other traffic charges for filing. In the same time period the Court disposed of 977 disorderly persons offenses, 457 local ordinance violations, 143 DWI charges and 5,935 other traffic charges.

**The Health Department**

*Environmental, Consumer, and Occupational Health*

- Revised and updated the following Ordinances:
  - Chapter 160, Noise (updated Ordinance to meet new State requirements).
  - Chapter 284, Food Handling Establishments (employees of Risk Level 2 food establishments are now required to pass food handler safety training course).
  - Chapter 312, Article 3, Health Certificates (individual sewage disposal system inspections no longer required at sale of property).
- Developed and introduced a new Ordinance for massage parlors/body art businesses, which allowed the Health Department to close two establishments for violations.
- Conducted over 1,000 apartment rental inspections.
- Drafted 14 policies and procedures for routine responsibilities.
- The staff obtained certification in Noise Enforcement.

*Animal Control*

- Entered into a shared services agreement with Washington Township to provide Animal Control services.
- Prosecuted 3 dangerous dog cases.
- Obtained and outfitted a new ACO vehicle.

*Public Health Nurse*

- Obtained training to respond to and monitor suspected Ebola cases.
- Monitored residents travelling from Ebola endemic areas.
- Investigated and controlled disease in 223 residents, including cases of meningitis, pertussis, malaria, toxic shock and foodborne illnesses.
- Provided health education to residents to prevent transmission of identified West Nile Virus.
- Provided health education in sleep apnea, stress reduction, mental health, falls prevention and oral health.
- Provided free screenings to residents for stroke, skin cancer, male and female cancers, diabetes and cholesterol.
- 734 blood pressure screenings.
- 54 immunizations to uninsured resident children.
- 9 community flu clinics and on-going walk-in clinics, resulting in the immunization of over 400 residents.

*Additional Achievements*

- Purchased a new bus and van to enhance the Senior Transportation program.
- A record 60+ children received gifts through our holiday gift giving program.

- Issued 135 Marriage Licenses.
- Issued 175 Certified Copies.

The **Building Department** collected approximately \$498,000.00 in fees with the Township receiving approximately \$462,000.00 of those fees. The Department issued 1,315 permits, 189 updated permits. There were 4,231 inspections for 2015, 1652 Building, 986 electrical, 486 fire and 1107 plumbing.

#### **The Fire Marshall's Office**

- 100 percent Completion for all life hazard buildings for Mount Olive, Hackettstown and Chester.
- 100 percent Completion for all non-hazard businesses in Mount Olive.
- Completion for life hazard uses, non-life hazard uses and smoke detectors tests that totaled 1,865 for Mount Olive.
- Completion for life hazard uses, non-life hazard uses and smoke detectors tests that totaled 851 for Hackettstown.
- Completion for life hazard uses, non-life hazard uses and smoke detectors tests that totaled 268 for Chester.

#### **The Police Department**

- On November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> the Police Department underwent a reaccreditation inspection process by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Assessment Team. We have been advised the Police Department performed extremely well. Accreditation Manager Sergeant Michael Cordileone and his assistants, Lieutenant Michael Spitzer and Corporal Eric Anthony led the effort. Formal accreditation is expected to take place early in 2016. Congratulations once again Chief.
- Nasal Narcan has been deployed in all of the front line patrol cars. Narcan helps prevent opioid overdoses by blocking the effects of this class of drug. Opioids include heroin, codeine, oxycodone, methadone and vicodin. It allows to stabilize the person overdosing until the arrival of medics and transportation to a hospital.
- The Detective Bureau developed a Field Training Module on investigations for new recruits. New officers Pagonis, Saunders, Reynolds and Carney have received the training.
- The Mount Olive Police Department ran testing and selection details for records clerk, dispatcher and police officer. This entailed over 500 contacts with civilians seeking employment.
- As a result of arrests, Detectives seized approximately \$20,000.00 and seized three (3) automobiles.
- Detectives assisted the Mount Olive Middle School by helping with their annual STEM class program, a program designed to provide learning experiences for summer students.
- Captain Beecher conducted Active Shooter Training for the Mount Olive Community Advisory Panel and Chamber of Commerce.

There were a number of training exercises that were completed. I didn't include them in my State of the Township because it was so lengthy that we would've been here for another 20 minutes, but you are to be commended in terms of the training that you provide to your officers and staff.

#### **AWARDS**

- Sergeant Carlstrom and Officer Wurtemberg received the Program Development Award for their role in developing and implementing the Narcan Program.
- Corporal Groblewski received the Honorable Service Award for her actions in preventing a male from jumping out of a moving ambulance on January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Officers Barrier and Carletta received the Honorable Service Award for locating a subject on January 29<sup>th</sup> prior to his killing himself by electrocution.

- Officer Bevacqua and Hering received a Life Saving Award for their actions in saving a blind man from an apartment fire on February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Officer Jadue received a Life Saving Award for rescuing a woman from a house fire on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Officers Hatzel, Grimm and Spotts received a Life Saving Award for their actions on May 23<sup>rd</sup> in saving a woman who had overdosed on “Molly”.
- Detective Sergeant Sanchez, Detectives Zarro and Krouse and Officers Barrier and Saunders received a Honorable Service Award for their actions on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, which led to the arrest of a subject trying to lure a female into a vehicle.
- Lieutenant Lucivero, Detective Sergeant Sanchez, Officers Elbaum and Saunders received the Honorable Service Award for their efforts in locating a subject in possession of a stolen pickup truck. This subject also committed numerous burglaries in the Budd Lake/Hackettstown area. Subject was arrested on July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Detective Corporal Casaletto received the Honorable Service Award for locating a subject who had slit their wrists and ran off into a wooded area on October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- On twenty (20) different occasions the department received letters from citizens thanking seventeen (17) different Officers for the service they provided.

### **Calls for Service/Statistics**

As of December 15, 2015:

- Communications and Police Officers handled approximately 77,050 calls for service.
- Records Clerks processed 2,200 investigations reports, 790 supplemental reports and 730 arrest reports.

As of December 1<sup>st</sup>, call types and response numbers for uniformed officers included but were not limited to:

- Alarms: 1,259
- Ambulance Assists: 1,256
- Assaults: 73
- Auto Theft: 4
- Burglaries: 53
- Business Checks: 13,014
- Criminal Mischief: 67
- Directed Patrols: 17,802
- Domestic Disputes: 138
- Domestic Violence: 48
- Domestic Violence Restraining Order Violations: 17
- DWI Arrests: 104
- Emotionally Disturbed Persons: 58
- Fraud: 111
- Harassment: 148
- Missing Persons: 9
- Motor Vehicle Stops: 11,698
- Motor Vehicle Summons Issued: 3,669
- Narcotic Arrests: 113
- Neighbor disputes: 31
- Noise Complaints: 238
- Residential Checks: 2,909
- Robberies: 4
- Sex Offenses: 11
- Thefts/Shoplifting: 184
- Traffic Collisions: 917
- Vacant Home Checks: 487

- Records Clerks completed over 600 Arrest Discovery and 47 Motor Vehicle Discovery requests.
- Records Clerks completed over 70 OPRA Requests, over 178 DYFS Requests, over 156 Background Requests, 49 Certified Mail Transactions and over 117 miscellaneous Report Requests.
- During the course of 2015, 260+ firearms applicant investigations were completed.
- Detectives conducted twelve (12) Vice/Narcotics Operations in 2015.
- Detectives investigated more than 218 cases; 57 of those cases were closed by arrest. Of the 218 cases, only 20 cases remain open.
- Detectives made 33 trips to the New Jersey State Police Lab with evidence to be processed.

I can tell you Chief, that I am very, very proud of the work that you and the Police Department does on behalf of the residents of Mount Olive year after year after year.

What I have included in this address is only a small sampling of what our Township departments and employees accomplished over the course of the last year. Let us not forget that they are on the front line everyday working to make Mount Olive a better and safer place to live. To that end, I congratulate all of the employees in all of the successes of 2015 and look forward to greater achievements in 2016.

As we move forward into 2016 and beyond, we have many things to look forward to. We can all also take pride in the MOMENTUM the Township has and continues to generate. I can't tell you how many people tell me that they love living in Mount Olive.

I would like to thank the Town Council, our Business Administrator, Laura Harris and all of our municipal employees for a job well done in 2015. May you all have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely and with great appreciation,

ROB GREENBAUM  
MAYOR, MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP

**Certificate of Achievement for Pastor Matt Jones**

**President Nicastro:** Thank you Mayor. We all appreciate your leadership and everything that you do for us, as well as the exposure that you mentioned. You're out there everywhere, that makes our jobs a lot easier up here, and all the departments in Town do a great job and that's an achievement to your leadership, it helps as well, so thank you very much. I know you have a certificate right now to present.

**Mayor Greenbaum:** I do, I want to call up Matt Jones. Matt come on up. There's only so much that we can do as a municipal government. We're bound by obviously our budgetary process and our commitment. We are all part-timers sitting up here, but at one point in time during my first administration I met Matt and Matt expressed an interest in really becoming the heart of Mount Olive. He didn't actually say that, he did it by his deeds. Matt took over with other individuals the food pantry, which has been so successful under their leadership. Matt has taken on a lot of the responsibilities of the Township that don't involve money, that involve the heart. We just really can't say enough but to thank you for everything that you do for Mount Olive Township. Congratulations. I have a certificate for you.

**Public Portion - None**

**Closing Council Comments**

**President Nicastro:** Thank you, well deserved. Anyone from the public wish to be heard? Seeing none. Closed to the public. Council Comments. Any comments, Mr. Amianda?

**Mr. Amianda:** None.

**President Nicastro:** Mrs. Labow?

**Mrs. Labow:** No, none.

**President Nicastro:** Mr. Ferrante?

**Mr. Ferrante:** No. Thank you.

**President Nicastro:** Mr. Stewart?

**Mr. Stewart:** No. Just congratulations to the Pastor.

**Mrs. Labow:** Yes.

**President Nicastro:** Mr. Roman?

**Mr. Roman:** I will not do what my colleagues have said and stay quiet. I'd like to thank the voters of Mount Olive for once again allowing me the pleasure and the honor of serving the Township for another four years and I'd like to thank my colleagues for electing me for Vice President. I hope to do half as good of a job that my predecessor has and to make not only the Township proud, but to make my colleagues proud also. Thank you.

**President Nicastro:** Thank you. Ditto here. Thank you to everyone who is here tonight. Thank you to the public and to the Council for re-electing me again for another year as President. I appreciate that and look forward to serving again. Pastor, would you come up for the benediction?

**Mr. Roman:** You're a popular man today.

**Benediction – Pastor Matt Jones**

**Pastor Jones:** I would just like to say thank you so very much for your thoughtfulness. It is our honor to serve and we truly believe that we serve our God through serving his people and we're glad that we can serve together in this community at this time, so why don't we pray? Father, we thank you for the great accomplishments that have gone on in this community over the past year. Lord, I thank you for able leadership, Lord, I thank you Lord, for those who have a heart for people. Lord, we thank you so very much Lord, that you have blessed us so mightily and Lord, we ask your continued blessings for 2016. Lord, we ask you for a spirit of unity and cooperation and Lord, we ask you for great strides. For the sake of your people, for the sake of your kingdom, we ask it in Christ's name. Amen.

**President Nicastro:** Do we have a motion to adjourn?

**ADJOURNMENT** - Motion made and seconded. All in favor, none opposed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

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**Joe Nicastro, Council President**

I, Michelle Masser, Township Clerk of Mount Olive do hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes approved at a legally convened meeting of the Mount Olive Township Council duly held on January 26, 2016.

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**Michelle Masser, Township Clerk**

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