

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
MEETING OF THE BYRAM TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
10 Mansfield Drive, Stanhope NJ 07874
Monday, December 9, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86819643035?pwd=75NFWaqmcTvyz8ags2PMCWOkZZT8Pb.1>

Meeting ID: 868 1964 3035 **Passcode:** 851998

Dial by your location: +1 646 518 9805 US (New York) OR +1 267 831 0333 US (Philadelphia)

The public will have an opportunity to comment at appropriate times during the meeting. The following is the agenda to the extent known:

- **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

- **OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT**

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting has been electronically sent to the newspapers, posted on the bulletin board of the Municipal Building, and uploaded to Byram's website, www.byramtp.org not less than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. In addition, a copy of this notice is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

- **ROLL CALL**

- **OS FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT**

1. Reserve for Open Space: \$400,848.62
2. Reserve for Debt Service: \$18,068.14

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –October 7 2024 Minutes

- **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Forest Management: Bids for Forest Stand Improvements and Timber Sale

- **NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2025 Planning and Goals

- **MEMBER REPORTS** – Reports from members on actions by their committees pertinent to OS.

- **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- **CLOSED SESSION**

- **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE COMMITTEE DEEMS NECESSARY**

- **ADJOURNMENT**

17-286-56-000-001 Reserve - Open Space

From 01/01/2024 to 11/07/2024

Date	Source	PO#	Contract#	Check #	Vendor #	Vendor/Description	Budget	Debit	Credit	PO Encumber	PO Payment	Balance (CR)
ACTIVITY/BALANCE (YEAR START)							-			88,299.87		360,435.56
1/ 1/2024	GJ 71					To adjust Open Space Debt Service for CY Allocation.		20,468.13				339,967.43
1/10/2024	DJ 12	27521		8086	3783	GREEN VALLEY GROUP, INC. INV#DRAWDOWN #1 DRAWDOWN #1				(43,238.78)	43,238.78	339,967.43
1/31/2024	RJ 1038					January 2024 Interest			2,040.12			342,007.55
2/21/2024	DJ 456			7687	649	HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOCIATES, Check Lost in Mail		(1,267.00)				343,274.55
2/28/2024	ENC	28390				To reissue check #7687 issued 10/18/23 lost i				1,267.00		342,007.55
2/29/2024	RJ 1039					February 2024 Interest			1,862.92			343,870.47
3/ 6/2024	DJ 486	28390		8384	649	HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOCIATES, INV#78182 To reissue check #7687 issued 10/18/23 lost i				(1,267.00)	1,267.00	343,870.47
3/12/2024	ENC	28441				PREPARE REPORTS/MEMOS				425.25		343,445.22
3/20/2024	DJ 626	28441		8448	649	HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOCIATES, INV#79397 PREPARE REPORTS/MEMOS				(425.25)	425.25	343,445.22
3/31/2024	RJ 1040					March 2024 Interest			1,997.54			345,442.76
4/30/2024	RJ 1619					April 2024 Interest			1,937.14			347,379.90
5/22/2024	DJ 1470	27521		8729	3783	GREEN VALLEY GROUP, INC. INV#DRAWDOWN #2 DRAWDOWN #2				(40,682.07)	40,682.07	347,379.90
5/22/2024	ENC	27521				(Increased) CHANGE ORDER #2 - APPROVED 05/21/				1,293.52		346,086.38
5/31/2024	RJ 1928					May 2024 Interest			1,950.08			348,036.46
6/30/2024	RJ 2084					June 2024 Interest			1,772.77			349,809.23
7/ 3/2024	DJ 1836	27521		8948	3783	GREEN VALLEY GROUP, INC. INV#FINAL DRAWDOWN FINAL DRAWDOWN				(1,712.67)	1,712.67	349,809.23
7/31/2024	RJ 2629					July 2024 Interest			1,765.40			351,574.63
8/ 7/2024	ENC	29201				QPA SERVICES FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF REHABILIT				4,350.00		347,224.63
8/31/2024	RJ 3156					August 2024 Interest			1,772.76			348,997.39
8/31/2024	GJ 172					To record 2024 Tax Levy.			110,430.00			459,427.39
9/16/2024	ENC	27510				To Cancel Balance - Project Complete.				(9.87)		459,437.26
10/ 2/2024	DJ 2678	29201		9363	2829	THE CANNING GROUP, LLC INV#2024-03 QPA SERVICES FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF REHABILIT				(4,350.00)	4,350.00	459,437.26
10/22/2024	ENC	29585				IMPROVEMENTS TO CO JOHNSON PARK FIELD #8 - AP				56,650.51		402,786.75

17-286-56-000-001 Reserve - Open Space

From 01/01/2024 to 11/07/2024

Date	Source	PO#	Contract#	Check #	Vendor #	Vendor/Description	Budget	Debit	Credit	PO Encumber	PO Payment	Balance (CR)
10/22/2024	ENC	29586				PRECONSTRUCTION MEETING				884.50		401,902.25
10/22/2024	ENC	29587				DRAFT MISCELLANEOUS				1,053.63		400,848.62
11/ 7/2024	DJ 2881	29586		9463	649	HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOCIATES, INV#81229 PRECONSTRUCTION MEETING				(884.50)	884.50	400,848.62
11/ 7/2024	DJ 2883	29587		9464	649	HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOCIATES, INV#81230 DRAFT MISCELLANEOUS				(1,053.63)	1,053.63	400,848.62
							-	19,201.13	125,528.73	(27,699.36)	93,613.90	400,848.62
							-	19,201.13	125,528.73	60,600.51	93,613.90	400,848.62

17-286-56-000-002 Reserve - Open Space (Debt Service)

From 01/01/2024 to 10/01/2024

Date	Source	PO#	Contract#	Check #	Vendor #	Vendor/Description	Budget	Debit	Credit	PO Encumber	PO Payment	Balance (CR)
ACTIVITY/BALANCE (YEAR START)							-					23,863.73
1/ 1/2024	GJ 71					To adjust Open Space Debt Service for CY Allocation.			20,468.13			44,331.86
3/26/2024	ENC	28507				SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST PAYMENT - 2005 OPEN SPAC				1,200.00		43,131.86
4/ 1/2024	DJ 733	28507		2024022	2868	THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY INV#04/01/24 SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST PAYMENT - 2005 OPEN SPAC				(1,200.00)	1,200.00	43,131.86
9/12/2024	ENC	29357				PRINCIPAL PAYMENT - 2005 OPEN SPACE BOND				60,000.00		(16,868.14)
9/12/2024	ENC	29358				SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST PAYMENT - 2005 OPEN SPAC				1,200.00		(18,068.14)
10/ 1/2024	DJ 2601	29357		2024081	2868	THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY INV#10/01/24 PRINCIPAL PAYMENT - 2005 OPEN SPACE BOND				(60,000.00)	60,000.00	(18,068.14)
10/ 1/2024	DJ 2602	29358		2024082	2868	THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY INV#10/01/24 SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST PAYMENT - 2005 OPEN SPAC				(1,200.00)	1,200.00	(18,068.14)
							-	-	20,468.13	-	62,400.00	(18,068.14)
							-	-	20,468.13	-	62,400.00	(18,068.14)

OPEN SPACE MEETING – October 7 2024

Members Present: Messrs. Morytko, Sabatini, Duch, Bogardus, Dlugos

Members Absent: Mayor Rubenstein, Mr. Esposito

Also present: Forester Heather Gracie, Secretary Caitlin Phillips

Mr. Morytko called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

OS Financial Status Report:

Reserve for OS- \$347,234.50 / Reserve for Debt Service- \$18,068.14

Mr. Sabatini noted the numbers in the report need to be updated with recent work done.

Approval of Minutes – June 10 2024 Minutes

Mr. Dlugos motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Duch. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Forest Management

Ms. Gracie said Tamarack, Glenside, and Cranberry Overlook should be the focus for the proposed work. They should also focus on invasive species removal, and can monitor trails for hazardous trees. In discussing Glenside Trail, she suggested a bid and practice plan for a tree harvest and maintenance. Mr. Duch noted for Glenside, they'd anticipate less pushback because the work would make the trails more accessible. Ms. Gracie noted in the work being done, they could consider making a new trail in that area. Mr. Sabatini said they need to look into what the Council would need to do for this, and if the County would need to get involved since the work is near a County road. Ms. Gracie should clarify where the tree removal is taking place. There are properties nearby that are in the Lake Mohawk Reservation.

Mr. Dlugos noted they could look into barberry control. For that, they typically do controlled burns and dig the roots out. He is interested in adding invasive plant removal as a goal for 2025. He asked about the possibility of fencing. Ms. Gracie said fences require more maintenance and can be expensive. Mr. Dlugos asked about grants; Ms. Gracie wasn't sure if that covers that kind of work. Mr. Sabatini said hunters need to be educated about the deer hunting, and shouldn't be feeding them. Mr. Dlugos said the ordinance only talks about not feeding them on public property, so maybe that should be updated.

Ms. Gracie talked about the community forestry plan. Mr. Sabatini noted the maintenance of the plan falls on the administrative office. Mr. Morytko noted the invasive species removal is volunteer driven, and with Tamarack, there is a possibility of controlled burns. Ms. Gracie noted there should be no heavy equipment. Mr. Sabatini noted they should look at more hazardous trees in the area, as he wants a consistent policy. Ms. Gracie noted she'd like to have the garlic mustard removed by March.

Township Park Updates

Regarding C.O Johnson field 8, Mr. Sabatini said they received bids. Three were over one million dollars, three were under one million dollars—the lowest bid was deemed to be responsible, and was at \$567,000.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Planning

Mr. Sabatini said they are looking at a tree removal project at the old school house. Mayor Rubenstein has been pushing for the tree removal and may speak to the JCP&L representative, as the trees are near the power source.

Open Space Minutes –October 7, 2024

Mr. Sabatini noted there is also an HVAC system that needs to be repaired, and they are looking to allocate Open Space funds. Mayor Rubenstein will work with Frank Gonzalez on this; they expect the repairs to be around \$1,000 to fix the unit. The Committee agreed in their support for this project. Mr. Dlugos asked about a lake management plan. Mr. Sabatini said it would be possible if the proximity was near Open Space parcels.

MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Morytko and Ms. Phillips noted the Planning Board reviewed an application for Starbucks, and the Byram Car Wash is adding new vacuums and a new sign. Mr. Duch said the Environmental Commission is having a birds of prey event coming up. There was discussion about having a trails map generated. Mr. Sabatini suggested having an Open Space consultant, which would need a bid. Mr. Morytko said they should add this as a discussion topic in December.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Patricia Moschella asked about using the Hudson Farms charity hike as a way to help with the money for the school house. Mr. Sabatini noted that is a Historical Society action that they could look into.

Mr. Duch asked about adding links to the agenda for supplemental documents.

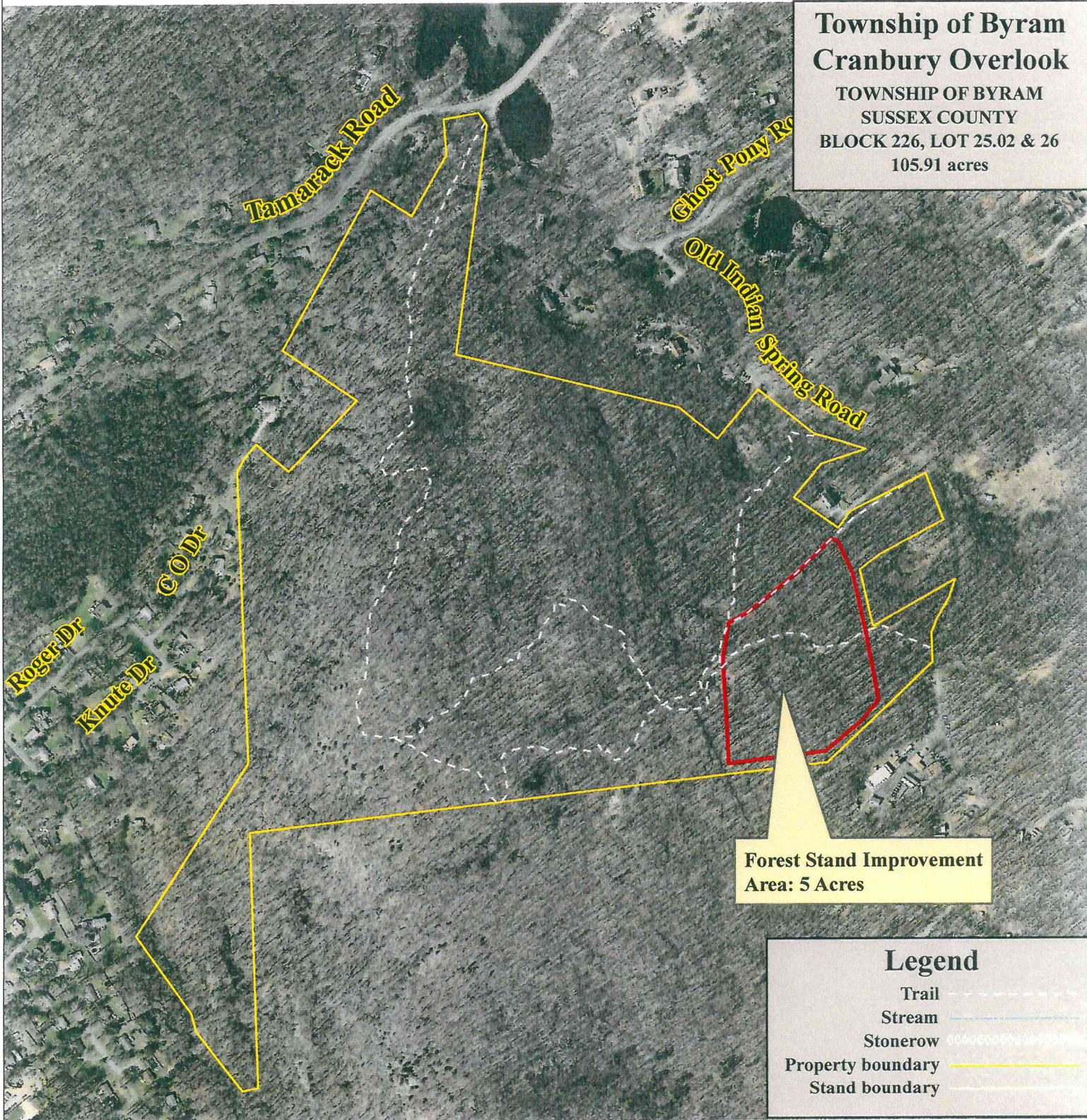
ADJOURN –Motion by Mr. Sabatini, second by Mr. Dlugos, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30p.m. All members in favor. Motioned carried.

WOODLAND VEGETATION MAP



Township of Byram Cranbury Overlook

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
SUSSEX COUNTY
BLOCK 226, LOT 25.02 & 26
105.91 acres



Forest Stand Improvement
Area: 5 Acres

Legend

- Trail
- Stream
- Stonerow
- Property boundary
- Stand boundary

This map was developed using NJDEP GIS digital data, but this secondary product has not been verified by NJDEP and is not state-authorized. This is not a wetlands delineation.

1 inch = 500 feet