

**PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 22, 2014**

A meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on this date at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room in the municipal complex, 400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

**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 September 3, 2014 at 3:15 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 Municipal Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

The Municipal Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mesdames Butler, Crumiller, Howard and Messers Liverman, Miller and Simon  
and  
Mayor Lempert.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Bruschi, Ms. Monzo, Mr. Kiser, Ms. Cecil and Chief Sutter.

**6:00 P.M.**

**14-273 CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL**

RESOLUTION  
TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION  
(Open Public Meetings Act Sec.3)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Princeton:

1. This body will now convene into a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in said session is as follows:  

Administrator,  
Appointments - Boards & Commissions
3. Stated as precisely as presently possible, the following are the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said session can be disclosed to the public:

Within 90 days or upon settlement of litigation, if applicable

The above referenced issue was discussed by the Princeton Council.

**7:00 P.M. OPEN SESSION**

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance

## **SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS**

Chief Sutter introduced Probationary Patrol Officers Dashawn Cribb and Donald Mathews to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Lempert swore in probationary Officers Cribb and Mathews.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Lempert read a proclamation declaring October 8, 2014 as International Walk to School Day and Crossing Guard Appreciation Day, and also read a proclamation entitled Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Daniel Harris, 28 Dodds Lane discussed with Council the worldwide People's Climate Change March and the United Nations Conference on Climate Change. He encouraged Princeton to adopt the best environmental practices as fully as possible and said that Princeton has an obligation to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels in every area of its operations. Mr. Harris requested that Council ask staff to estimate their usage of gasoline in the leaf and brush program in an effort to evaluate the carbon footprint of the program.

Wendy Mager, 459 Cherry Hill Road expressed her concern about the proposed PennEast Pipeline, asking that Princeton stand with fellow towns. She said that we can no longer afford to say that it is not in our town.

John Marshall, Princeton Merchants Association, said that McCaffrey's Market will be holding a food show on the weekend of October 18-19, 2014 to benefit firefighters and EMT's. The cost is \$5.00 and 100% of the proceeds will go to the local departments.

Henry Singer, 187 Laurel Circle said that he is pleased with the results of Access Princeton.

Linda Auerbach, Lytle Street, discussed the issue of signage on Lytle Street. The Mayor said that she would send the issue to Traffic Safety and understood that it was at the top of Sergeant Murray's list of items to review.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Princeton Ridge Stewardship Plan**

Dr. Michael Van Clef reviewed with Council the proposed Princeton Ridge East Conservation Area Stewardship Plan. The plan was prepared in consultation with the AD & R Greenway, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, The Friends of Princeton Open Space, Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association, Mercer County and the municipality. The project was funded by Mercer County.

The Princeton Ridge East Conservation Area consists of approximately 1,741 acres in the northeastern portion of Princeton and contains over 590 acres of protected open space. The plan includes a vision for the Princeton Ridge East Conservation Area, identifying natural threats to the health of the Princeton Ridge and provides a stewardship plan to help manage the public lands in the Princeton Ridge.

Ms. Butler asked how much the municipality spends on deer eradication. Mr. Miller said between \$70,000 - \$90,000. per year, it has been our mandate to reduce deer population. Ms. Crumiller said that the forest has yet to recover.

Mayor Lempert said that she would encourage Council to accept the report and then send the report to the Recreation Board.

Steve Hiltner said that he puts full support behind the proposed plan. Ms. Butler expressed her thanks to Steve and others for their hard work at Herrontown Woods.

Ms. Crumiller expressed concern about the use of chemicals such as Roundup used to eradicate certain species of plants. Donna Fasanella, also expressed similar concerns and noted that it has been documented that Roundup has been found in breast milk. Mayor Lempert said that these concerns were points well taken and should need to be considered.

Ms. Howard offered a motion for Council to accept the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously.

### **Discussion Witherspoon Street Corridor**

Mr. Solow said that this discussion is the first of many in a process that will start with a dialogue and form the next steps.

Mr. Solow said that the Witherspoon corridor contains a variety of uses including residential, multifamily, offices, rental and mixed used development. He said that there are eight distinct zoning

districts in the corridor (CB, R-4, RB, R-4A, MRRO, B-1, R-O, and R-6) and these districts with the exception of the new hospital zones, have been in place for over thirty years.

Ms. Crumiller said that she would like to see a capacity analysis done and Mr. Solow said that another step to take would be a visioning process.

Ms. Butler said with the PFARS building and its implications on traffic patterns on Witherspoon Street, she is frustrated that there is not a list in place for applications for a unified look

Mr. Simon asked for an explanation of form based code. Mr. Solow explained that the code looks at the form of the building, the separation between buildings, and desirable streetscapes. Ms. Butler asked if form precludes one looking at uses. Mr. Solow said that he had not seen that.

Jim Floyd, 64 Harris Road said that there is not a street in Princeton that compares to Witherspoon Street, formerly known as African Street. He asked that it be looked at it from the stand point of its citizens and consider the history. Mr. Floyd asked that Council not make a hasty decision.

Alexi Assmuss, asked that Council engage a professional urban designer and have a impact study. She asked that the school situation be looked and old sewers need to be considered as well.

Kate Warren, Jefferson Road said suggested that they look at the housing element and the master plan.

Jim Kilgore, Pretty Brook Road said that zoning was looked at in the late 80's and businesses felt that the zoning was working. He said that he was supportive of the way things were.

Peter Marks, 107 Moore Street said that he gets nervous when he hears that this may move quickly. He asked that the current zoning be left alone and let people enjoy it the way it is.

Ms. Howard asked if there are steps to preserve what we do love.

Evan Yasky, Hawthorn Avenue said that we started the evening with wonderful things. He said that it was wonderful that Council was bringing this issue before the public and that there is so much to retain and that the street can be so much more than what it is today.

Kip Cherry, Dempsey Avenue, asked if there has been an analysis of the Master Plan, corridor. She said that while it would take time it should be updated first. She said that infrastructure is critical and we need to know what we are doing before we move ahead. She said that things like porches are not trivial and preserving character and history are important.

Jay Craig, 300 Elm Road said that he is troubled by a better Witherspoon Street. Better for whom, he asked?

Mayor Lempert said that we are not looking for change just for change sake. We are looking for the best way to preserve.

Ms. Crumiller said that she would like to see a historic district, look at a capacity analysis and a vision analysis.

Mr. Miller said that he has heard a range of thoughts but that he was not ready to make a decision and that he wanted to hear more.

Mr. Liverman said that he has lived on Witherspoon Street for 46 years and loves a lot of things and has no problem with Witherspoon Street.

Ms. Butler said that she agreed with what she heard on the dais tonight, but as much as things stay the same they also change and we want to be proactive.

Mr. Simon said that we can deliberately change the zoning with intent. How do we do that legally? Mr. Simon asked if we want to get to the point of doing financial analysis. If the goal is to preserve character of the neighborhood than we need to know what we mean by that. Mr. Simon said that he was supportive of the process.

Mayor Lempert said that she was also supportive of the process.

Council directed staff to undertake a capacity analysis and report back at a later date.

## **REPORTS**

### **July Police Report**

Chief Sutter reviewed Council the July Police Report. Chief Sutter said that the Princeton UCR of index crimes stayed completely stagnate in 2013-2014.

Mr. Simon asked for an explanation of the index growth. Chief Sutter said that there are eight index crimes and the UCR rates crimes per 1000 residents.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Ms. Crumiller said that the Code Review Committee was looking at the ordinances involving

Mr. Liverman said that they were beginning to review names for appointment to the affordable housing task force.

Mr. Simon announced that there would be an extra brush pick up and that residents should check the web site for the date.

Mayor Lempert announced the official launch of Access Princeton on September 18, 2014, and reported that Council would meet with Princeton University President Christopher Eisgruber on November 3, 2014.

## **ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **Mid Block Crosswalks**

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled An Ordinance Concerning Mid-Block Crosswalks With in Princeton Amending the “Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1972”.

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Crumiller and carried unanimously.

### **Recreation and Parks - Tabled**

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled An Ordinance by Princeton Concerning Recreation and Parks and Similar Public Places, and Amending the “Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974” and the “Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968.”

Mayor Lempert announced that the proposed ordinance would be tabled for this evening as it was still undergoing review.

### **Hydraulic Fracturing**

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled An Ordinance by Princeton Banning the Use of Hydraulic Fracturing in the Municipality and Amending and Supplementing the “Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968” in Connection Therewith.

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

Mr. Simon asked within the Township Code and the Borough Code is there existing clauses stating in what zones fracking is permitted. Ms. Cecil said there is no wiggle room and that it is patently obvious that it is a prohibited use.

Jim Benton, Executive Director, New Jersey Petroleum Council said that he respected the effort that Council has undertaken but that he respectfully disagrees and is in opposition to the proposed ordinance.

Jim Kilgore, Pretty Brook Road said that he was familiar with this having gone through something similar in Pennsylvania. He said that you need about 640 acres to have a proper drill site. He asked if this ordinance controlled activity.

Steve Miller, Board of Heath asked Council actually thinks that there is no interest in fracking in Princeton.

Elizabeth Nelson, Somerset said that she has an anti-fracking mobile which she uses to talk to people about fracking unsafe as an unsafe industry.

Laura Petrie, Food and Water Watch advised that the industry can advise for a variance. She said that this industry does not care if people live or die and that the best that the municipality can do is to ban fracking.

There being no further public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried by five affirmative votes. Mr. Simon voted in the negative.

#### **Acquisition of 8 and 14 Clearview Avenue, PFARS**

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled An Ordinance by Princeton Authorizing the Acquisition of 8 Clearview Avenue (Block 7307, Lot 2, Princeton Tax Map) and 14 Clearview Avenue (Block 7307, Lot 3 Princeton Tax Map) from the Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad Pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:12-3 Et Seq

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Simon offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously.

#### **ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

**No Parking Zone, Markham Road**

Mayor Lempert read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled An Ordinance Creating a No Parking Zone on a Portion of Markham Road and Amending the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974".

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Ms. Butler seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The public hearing was set for October 13, 2014.

**Bond Ordinance, Poe Road Sidewalks**

Mayor Lempert read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled Bond Ordinance by the Municipality of Princeton Authorizing as a Local Improvement the Construction of Sidewalks Along Poe Road, Appropriating the Sum of \$38,500.00 Therefor, Providing for the Financing of Said Appropriation by the Making of a Down Payment and Issuance of Bonds or Notes of Said Municipality and Further Providing for the Special Assessment of Fifty (50%) Percent of the Cost Thereof .

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Mr. Liverman seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The public hearing was set for October 27, 2014.

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. 14-274 Resolution Authorizing Use of State Contract # A81381 by Princeton, Monument Hall Video Surveillance, \$33,650.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 14-274 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Howard and carried by four affirmative votes. Ms. Crumiller and Mr. Simon were not present for the vote.

2. 14-275 Bid Award Fall Transplanting Project, Greenscape Landscape Contractors, Inc., \$17,900.

Ms. Howard offered a motion to approve resolution 14-275 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by four affirmative votes. Ms. Crumiller and Mr. Simon were not present for the vote.

3. 14-276 Resolution Amending Agreement with Neil Yoskin, Not to Exceed \$9,000.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 14-276 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Howard and carried by four affirmative votes. Ms. Crumiller and Mr. Simon were not present for the vote.

4. 14-277 Professional Services Agreement Hunter Research for D'Ambrisi Historical Documentation, Not to Exceed \$10,310.00

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve resolution 14-277 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by four affirmative votes. Ms. Crumiller and Mr. Simon were not present for the vote.

5. 14-278 Professional Services Agreement, Stormwater Management Consulting to Consolidate the Former Borough and Township Stormwater Ordinances, Not to Exceed \$11,500.

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve resolution 14-278 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried by five affirmative votes. Mr. Simon was not present for the vote.

6. 14-279 Professional Services Agreement, Whitman Environmental and Engineering for Former Hospital Site Inspection and Monitoring NTE \$18,970

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve resolution 14-279 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by five affirmative votes. Mr. Simon was not present for the vote.

7. 14-280 Resolution Regarding Transportation Costs for Hazardous Bus Routes for the 2013-2014 School Year

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 14-280 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried by five affirmative votes. Mr. Simon was not present for the vote.

8. 14-281 NJ Municipal Services Act Agreement, Palmer Properties, LLC

Ms. Howard offered a motion to approve resolution 14-281 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried by five affirmative votes. Mr. Simon was not present for the vote.

(Resolutions appended to this set of minutes.)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Maintenance Performance Guarantees

a. FOUNTAIN RIDGE, LLC (Formerly J. Robert Hillier "Copperwood"; Applicant: Hillier Properties, LLC; Completion Time Extension to June 4, 2015

b. Alterations to Princeton Resources Center (Suzanne Patterson Bldg) Removal and Replacement of Windows, Applicant :Winderco, Inc.; Release of Maintenance Guaranty.

2. Bills and Claims

3. 14-282 Property Tax Refund, 24 Charlton Street \$8,255.22

4. 14-283 Property and Lease Management Agreement for 132 Brickhouse Road

5. 14-284 Discharge of Notice of Intent Henry Wollman

6. 14-285 Liquor License Transfer Expansion of Premises, # 1114-44-002-008, the Corkscrew Wine Shop

7. 14-286 Supporting Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva Awareness

8. 14-287 Banner Request Witherspoon Grill Harvest Festival, October 6-13, 2014

9. 14-288 Award of Contract for Belgian Block Curb Repair and Repointing Curb Joints - Vincent Baldino \$9,000

10. Authorization for Night Time Work - Sewer Repair at Nassau Street and Harrison Street Intersection

11. 14-289 Fire Department Associate Member Scott W. Loh

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve consent agenda items "1-11" in block. The motion was seconded by Ms. Howard and carried unanimously by those present.

(Resolutions appended to this set of minutes.)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott  
Municipal Clerk



**Municipality of Princeton**  
**Department of Community Development**  
**Office of Planning**

Princeton Municipal Building  
 400 Witherspoon Street  
 Princeton, NJ 08540

609-924-5366  
 609-688-2032 (fax)

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Robert Bruschi, Administrator  
**FROM:** Lee Solow, Director of Planning  
**DATE:** September 11, 2014  
**SUBJECT:** Witherspoon Street Corridor

The Mayor and Council have scheduled a discussion with property owners, businesses and neighbors on existing land use conditions in the Witherspoon Street corridor for its September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Attached please find a copy of a map depicting the corridor and a chart indicating permitted uses and selected bulk standards. At the meeting staff is prepared to discuss existing conditions and existing zoning. It is my understanding that after the presentation the floor will be opened for questions and that Mayor and Council will identify the next steps in the process with the community at large.

The Witherspoon corridor contains a variety of uses including residential, multifamily, offices, retail and mixed use development. There are eight distinct zoning districts in the corridor (CB, R-4, RB, R-4A, MRRO, B-1, R-O, & R-6) and these zone districts, with the exception of the new hospital zones (MRRO and R-O), have been in place for over 30 years. In the past it was difficult to coordinate all activities along Witherspoon Street as it ran through two communities. Now, as a unified town, we have the opportunity to review the entire corridor, preserve the existing character, and create a unified vision.

cc.  
 K. Monzo, Assit. Admin.  
 R. Kiser, PE, Municipal Engineer  
 T. Cecil, Municipal Attorney

Attachment: Bruschi - meeting attachments (1114 : Discussion Witherspoon Street Corridor)

Witherspoon Street Corridor Permitted uses and Bulk Standards

Witherspoon Street Corridor Zones & Permitted Uses							
	R-6	B-1	RO	MRRO	R-4/R4A	RB	CB
Single Family	X	X		X	X	X	X
2-Family				X	X	X	X
Attached				X	X	X	X
Multi-family				X	X	X	X
Mixed Use				X		X	X
Office		X	X	X		*	X
Retail		X	X	X		*	X
Service Use		X	X	X		*	X
Restaurants		X	X	X		X	X
Banks		X	X	X			X
Hospital			X	X			

X permitted use

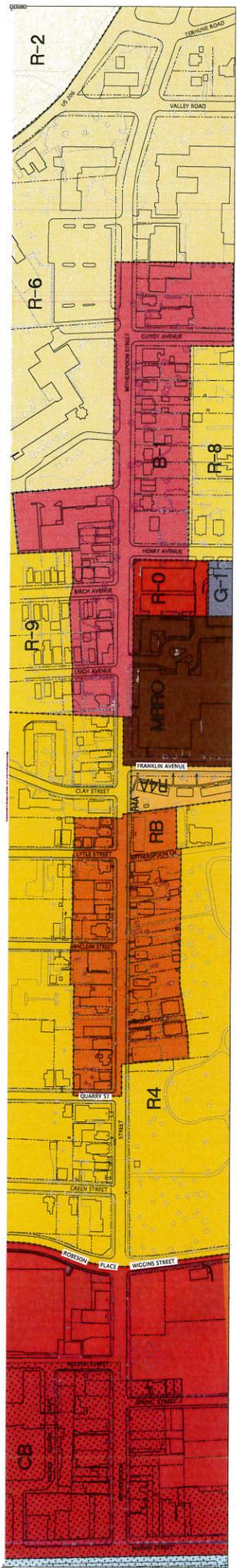
\* permitted in mixed use building

Witherspoon Street Corridor Zones & Selected Bulk Standards										
Zone	Lot area	Front Setback	Rear Setback	Side Setback	FAR	Height	Stories	Coverage		
CB	Varies	0 or 10'	0 or 10'	0/12'	1.5	35' to 60'	5	60%		
RB	Varies	15' to 25'	20' to 30'	10' to 20'	.6 to .9	35'	3	30%		
R4/R4A	1 family 6,000 sf	25'	35'	8'/20'	40%	35'	3	40%		
R4/R4A	2 Family 3,300 sf per unit	20'	35'	8'/20'	45%	35'	3	45%		
R4R4A	Att./Multi 3,000sf per unit	15'	25'	15'/30'	45%	35'	3	45%		
MRRO	5.6 acres	25'	25'	25'	1.8	67.5**	5**	60%		
RO	Varies **	15' to 25'	15' to 25'	10' to 15'	0.6 to 0.9	35'	3	30%		
B1	Business 4,356 sf	10'	15'	n/a	60%	30'	n/a	n/a		
B1	Residential 10,890 sf	25'	15'	15'	25%	30'	m/a	30%		
R6	10,890	25'	15'	15'	25%	30'	n/a	30-41%		

\* Existing building may remain

\*\* Based on habitable rooms

Attachment: Permitted Uses and Bulk Standards (1114 : Discussion Witherspoon Street Corridor)



Daniel A. Harris, 28 Dodds Lane, Princeton, NJ  
Remarks to Princeton Council 9/22/14

We are meeting one day after the worldwide People's Climate Change March, and a day before the United Nations Conference on Climate Change. Yesterday's New York Times announced that the Rockefeller Foundation will divest itself of all holdings in fossil fuels; the same edition announced that greenhouse gas emissions rose 2.3% in 2013, with the world "far off track in its efforts to control global warming."

Princeton has a civic and universally communal responsibility to adopt Best Environmental Practices as fully as possible—from thermostat adjustment to the use of 100% recycled paper with soy ink to devising incentives for homeowners and builders to use solar energy and the use of air, instead of paper towels, to dry one's hands in all buildings over which PC can exercise control. This is what Bill DiBlasio is doing in New York.

Princeton also has an obligation to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, in every area of its operations.

With such a reduction in mind, I want to jump forward to the future PC meeting on 13 October 2014, when it is likely that PC will discuss the excellent memorandum concerning the Leaf and Brush Ordinance submitted to you by the PEC on 8/22/14. My aim, however, is not to offer views on the leaf/brush program itself.

I mean instead to state, simply, that the document is incomplete. To the best of my knowledge, it was submitted without any financial information concerning the costs of the current leaf/brush collection program to Princeton municipality. Without that information no intelligent evaluations can be made concerning the civic value of the program in relation to other civic/municipal needs.

Just four hours ago I received from Councilwoman Crumiller a document, "Leaves and Brush Numbers—Working Draft," which she compiled with Bob Hough and Janet Pellichero. Bob Hough gave an oral presentation of this information to PC on 7/28/14.

Valuable as it is, this document makes no reference to gasoline used in the current Leaf/Brush pickup program. I now request PC to ask municipal staff for their best estimates for gasoline consumed in the program, as the trucks drive around Princeton's streets and then transport leaf and brush to either Lawrenceville or Cranbury. This estimate should include number of gallons, mileage, and total cost of gas for each segment of the program. In that way we will be able to evaluate the carbon footprint of our leaf and brush program. (If the information cannot be gotten for past years, then I request that the information be gathered on a go-forward basis from Fall 2014 onwards).

Without an understanding of gas usage and expenditures, PC cannot make intelligent public policy. Most of you have substantial business experience; you would not make decisions without adequate information about finances or resources. The PEC report (section B) rightly recommends a Public Education program to help citizens understand their options—ways, indeed, of behaving in a more environmentally sustainable manner. PC cannot properly construct or implement such a Public Education program without information pertaining to gas consumption. And without this understanding, none of us can understand the extent of our obligation to reduce our municipal carbon footprint and our present contributions, so to speak, to climate change, global warming, and the misuse of fossil fuels.

It is my hope that a head start can be made on compiling these figures before the discussion on 10/13/14.

I'm speaking tonight to alert Council and the Mayor to a newly-proposed natural gas pipeline project called the PennEast Pipeline. This project is one of 7 that are currently proposed for the Delaware River Basin, including the Williams/TRANSCO Leidy Southeast Expansion that is already affecting Princeton. I have some maps that I would like to pass up that show the trajectory of the proposed PennEast project, both in its entirety and where it would pass through nearby municipalities.

Unfortunately, we in New Jersey are located directly between the natural gas fracking operations in Pennsylvania and the coastal facilities from which large energy companies want to sell this flood of gas overseas, as well as distribution points for other parts of the U.S. Eleven pipeline projects have already been constructed through the Delaware Basin since 2011.

This latest proposal would cross, among others, Delaware, West Amwell and Hopewell Townships, and would pass quite near to Pennington Boro. It appears to have been cynically targeted to run through numerous farms and parks that were preserved by government and non-profits with a great deal of thought, effort, and New Jersey taxpayer dollars. In Delaware Township, it would cut right through New Jersey Conservation Foundation's Wickecheoke Creek Preserve. In Hopewell Township, it would run through two large sections of Mercer Meadows Park, where Mercer County only recently finished a major project to create trails, interpretive exhibits and other enhancements. One of these sections is the "Ecological District," through which the Stony Brook flows and where access is limited to minimize human impact. Imagine the impact of cutting a 50 to 100-foot path through the woods and excavating for a pipeline!

We cannot afford to look at this project and say, "Well, at least it's not in our town." It may not be this time, but we in Princeton happen to have both a considerable amount of preserved land, and a number of pipeline branches already running through this community that companies may want to expand or connect to. We will also inevitably be affected by the degradation of Stony Brook and other natural resources. Moreover, I believe you'll agree that we don't want to live in a county or state that has become a spiderweb of natural gas pipelines, with all the attendant pollution, environmental damage and safety concerns that implies. That is why we need to stand with our fellow towns and our County to fight this pipeline and see that it never gets built, and we need to act fast.

I urge the Mayor and Council to send a letter or resolution to the County Executive, to our state legislative representatives, to Senator Menendez and Representative Holt, and to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission expressing strong opposition to this project that has targeted our preserved farms and parks. I would also like to note for all those present that the Delaware Riverkeeper is one of the lead organizations working to stop the PennEast pipeline, and you can find more information about it at [www.delawariverkeeper.org](http://www.delawariverkeeper.org). Thank you for your consideration.