



Plainsboro Reporter

A Quarterly Township Newsletter

Fall 2017

Development Projects Move Forward

Food Emporium

The long awaited replacement grocery store is closer to becoming a reality as the new operator has secured building permits for the interior renovation of the former Super Fresh site. The new grocery store will be a Food Emporium, a division of the Key Foods brand.

“Our residents have gone a long time without a grocer in town so I could not be more pleased that Food Emporium is coming to Plainsboro”, said Committeeman Ed Yates.

Store owner Kevin Kim operates other Food Emporiums in New Jersey and New York and is excited about becoming the main anchor tenant in the Plainsboro Plaza. Mr. Kim is currently working on the interior renovations. According to Mr. Kim, Food Emporium should open by the end of 2017.

“Our residents have gone a long time without a grocer in town so I could not be more pleased that Food Emporium is coming to Plainsboro”, said Committeeman Ed Yates.

Dollar Tree

Another new tenant also is anticipated to move into the Plainsboro Plaza. Dollar Tree was granted approval by the Planning Board in June for new signage with interior work to begin soon. The new store will be a few doors down from the Light Bridge Academy.

There is no announced opening date for Dollar Tree.

Life Time

Life Time, headquartered in Chanhassen, Minnesota, is a distinctive resort-like destination that helps members achieve their goals everyday with the support of a team of dedicated professionals and an array of proprietary health assessments.

Located on the Princeton Forrestal Campus, the rear of the facility can be seen from the north side of Scudders Mill Road near Route 1. The property is accessed from Forrestal Road South, which intersects with Campus Road. The 120,000 square foot building on twelve plus acres received Planning Board approval in September 2016. Since then the Life Time team has perfected the plans and received the necessary outside agency approvals. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

The facility will offer indoor and outdoor aquatic centers, a full-service cafe, salon and spa, a Kids Academy, indoor basketball courts, state-of-the-art fitness equipment and a full staff of trainers to help members achieve their health objective and fitness goals. This will be Life Time’s fourth facility in New Jersey. Currently they have 127 fitness centers throughout the United States located in 27 states.



A rendering of what the new Life Time Athletic, currently under construction off Scudders Mill Road near Route 1, will look like upon completion in early 2018.

Did You Know?



Did you know that you can pay your property taxes electronically? Property tax payments are accepted online through our website.

To make an online payment, visit www.plainsboronj.com and click on the Online Payments icon (pictured left). Choose the option “Taxes” and follow the prompts. You can access your tax bill using your name, your address or your block and lot. Payments can be made by credit card, e-check, or debit card. A convenience fee applies. Payment by e-check costs only \$1.05 per transaction while payment by Visa debit cards are assessed a flat rate of \$3.95 per transaction, and credit cards are assessed a fee of 2.95% of the transaction.

For a no-cost electronic option, Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payment is also available. Register with the Tax Collector’s office, and your preauthorized bank account will be debited each quarter for the amount due on your block and lot. This option is very popular because it’s free and you essentially “set it and forget it” when it comes to remembering to pay your quarterly property taxes. Email reminders are sent prior to payments being debited from the preauthorized bank account. For questions or if

you need additional information, please call the Tax Collector’s office at (609)799-0909, ext. 1408 or 1409.

Did you know that PSE&G has scheduled a tower replacement project? The 30 lattice-type power line towers that traverse the eastern section of the Township will be replaced with sixteen single, or monopole, towers. The work will begin next year with the new pole towers going up in 2019-2020. PSE&G is replacing the towers along the corridor stretching from Metuchen to Burlington. The monopole towers will be taller than the existing lattice towers, but there will be fewer in number across the Township.

Did you know that the Township runs a free rabies clinic each autumn? New Jersey State law mandates that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed. Applications are available for all new pets in the Township Clerk’s Office at 641 Plainsboro Road. Proof of rabies vaccination must be submitted with the application (see page 7 for more information).

To assist pet owners, a Free Rabies Clinic has been scheduled for November 4, 2017 at the Plainsboro Public Works garage. Dogs are scheduled for 9:00am to 10:00am and cats are scheduled for 10:00am to 11:00am. Owners must have large dogs securely leashed. Very small dogs and cats should be in a pet carrier.

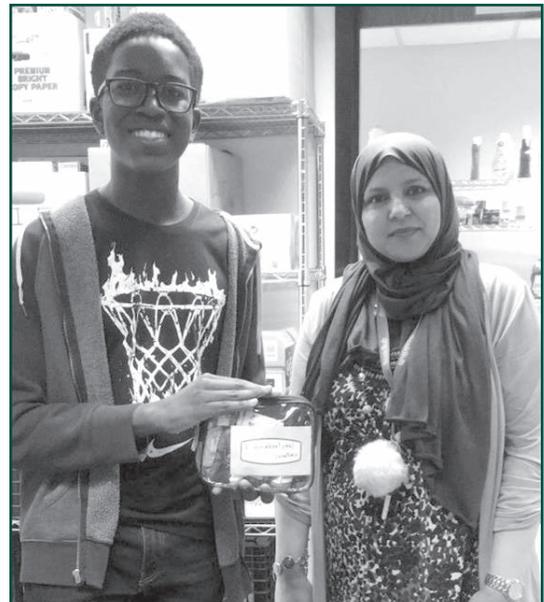
“Goodies” For Plainsboro’s Food Pantry

The Plainsboro Food Pantry runs entirely on non-perishable food and monetary donations.

Occasionally we receive a donation that touches our hearts deeply. Recently, Garden State Goodies did just that. The group is comprised of altruistic teenagers who serve the community through volunteerism and fundraising. They devoted their time to personalizing each care package with meaningful notes on them, such as: “I care about you,” “hope this helps” and “you are awesome, keep being you!” This act of kindness was greatly appreciated by our recipients. Small gestures like this leave a lasting impact on our recipients.

Please consider supporting the Plainsboro Food Pantry through donations. Another way to provide support is through food drives at local markets and organizations.

If you or anyone you know would like to help with the food pantry or if you’d like more information about the pantry, visit www.plainsboronj.com, email eladak@plainsboronj.com or call 609-799-0909 ext. 1711 or ext. 1719.



Garden State Goodies volunteer Jonathan Solomon (left) proudly presents Plainsboro Food Pantry Coordinator Erum Ladak (right), with a personalized care package for pantry recipients.

Students Tackle Environmental Challenges at Plainsboro Preserve

In early May, students from Community Middle School's 7th grade science classes were introduced to some of the challenges at the Plainsboro Preserve by Plainsboro's Park Rangers.

Having learned about a healthy ecosystem, roughly 385 students-split in groups-accompanied Plainsboro Park Rangers to the Preserve for a research field trip. Students were tasked with defining problems to address, researching existing solutions and devising new solutions or improving upon current ones. Their research included estimated costs as well as a timetable for implementation.

The students ultimately made presentations to their peers through skits, newscasts or other interactive methods to identify the challenge; present the solution and state evidence as to why and how it would work. Of the several group projects, eight were selected to be presented to the Township Park Rangers.

Senior Park Ranger Craig Harley commented, "The students and their ideas were simply amazing! They worked on everything from invasive species to educating the public on how changes impact the ecosystems and how the ecosystems rebound. Introducing these children to the environment now and allowing them to explore preservation and conservation efforts is invaluable for the future of our natural resources."

Haunted Tonight!

On the evening of Saturday, October 28th, be on the lookout for monsters, goblins, and witches, but don't worry. They mean you no harm. They will be heading out to the "Haunted Tonight" event hosted by the Plainsboro Recreation and Community Services Department.

There will be something for all ages, and no costume is required. Participants can stroll along with the costume parade that kicks off the event at 5:00pm, and then head over to go "trick or treating" through the haunted village, dance to music by a local DJ or get their picture taken at the "photo op" station. You can pick your own pumpkin or go on a hayride. Participants can journey inside for a snack, ghost story,

Halloween craft and a show. At dark, if you are brave, you can join a friendly ghoul who will guide you through a haunted trail.

The event is sponsored by Plainsboro Township and the 1st Constitution Bank. The "haunted houses" throughout the village are decorated and sponsored by local community groups. The Haunted Trail is sponsored each year by Boy Scout Troop Number 168. "Thanks to the countless volunteers involved with this event, Plainsboro families can enjoy a fun autumn evening with their friends and neighbors," stated Township Committeeman Nuran Nabi.

This is an event that you will not want to miss!



Staff and volunteers with the Plainsboro Department of Recreation and Community Services dressed in *Wizard of Oz*-themed costumes for last year's Haunted Tonight! This year's event is scheduled for October 28th.

Child Safety Seat Inspections Offered By Plainsboro Fire Company

The Plainsboro Fire Company has recently begun offering child safety seat inspections. A letter released by Doug Vorp and Lieutenant Matt Collins, firemen/EMTs with Plainsboro Fire Company states; “As firefighters and EMTs we have all too often seen the results when a child is not properly restrained in a vehicle. Those scenes are ones we would prefer not to see; we decided to take a proactive approach and become certified technicians to help minimize the number of injuries suffered by children who are not properly restrained in a vehicle. We are parents ourselves and

know there is nothing more important than a child’s safety.”

Inspections are conducted free of charge Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00am and 4:00pm. An appointment is required. Call 609-799-0492 or e-mail matthew.collins@plainsborofire.com or doug.vorp@plainsborofire.com to schedule an appointment.



Simple Water Conservation Methods Aid Environment

Drinking water is a precious resource which can sometimes be in short supply. In adopting everyday water conservation practices, we can do our part to conserve.

There are several easy tips that everyone can follow to conserve water. Inside your home, fill your dishwasher completely prior to use and wash only full loads of laundry. In addition, turn off the water while brushing your teeth and fix any household leaks. Outside your home, water your lawn and plants only when needed. Choose plants that will best survive in local conditions. Use a bucket when washing your car or utilize a car wash that recycles water. Improving the water efficiency of your home products also helps. Whether it’s installing a low-flow showerhead or a high efficiency washing machine, every drop counts.

Programs are available that provide assistance with water conservation. One nationally recognized program is WaterSense. WaterSense labels products that meet water efficiency and performance standards, and also provides educational materials and efficiency facts and tips. This information allows consumers to better understand the efficiency of a product prior to purchase,” stated Township Committeeman David Bander.

Environmental Advisory Liaison, Neil Lewis, reminds residents that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s (NJDEP) website provides tips on water conservation, guidance on available programs and links to various resources. If you want more information regarding water conservation, visit the NJDEP website <http://nj.gov/dep/watersupply/conserve.htm> or call the Department of Public Works at 799-0099.

Fire Prevention Week Begins October 8th

National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) Fire Prevention week is October 8th-14th. This year’s theme emphasizes the need to have two ways out of your home in the event of a fire emergency. Equally important is to have a comprehensive fire escape plan that everyone in your family knows and practices twice yearly. Although modern building codes now require that most new construction is equipped with fire sprinklers, many of the residences in Plainsboro were built before these requirements were in place, leaving them more susceptible to the spread of fire.

Visit NFPA’s website at <http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week> for more information on Fire Prevention Week.

According to the NFPA, “In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.”

That’s why this year’s Fire Prevention Week theme “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!” is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Following is a list of this year’s key campaign messages:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can’t help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Plainsboro's Leaf Collection Program

Beginning mid-October and typically lasting through mid-December, Plainsboro's Department of Public Works (DPW) staff collects leaves (see page 7 for schedule).

Plainsboro is divided into two sections and each section is guaranteed at least two (2) collections. During this time, residents are permitted to rake their leaves to the curb or place them along the street adjacent to their residence. Leaves can be placed at curbside no more than seven (7) days prior to your zone's scheduled collection and are required to be at least ten (10) feet from a storm drain inlet. Leaf piles mixed with debris will not be collected. Residents who fail to comply with these regulations are required to remove the piles of leaves at their own expense and risk being fined. Residents that employ private landscapers are responsible to inform their landscaper of all leaf collection regulations.

Though the program allows leaves to be raked to the curb, we encourage residents to keep their leaves out of the street in

order to prevent ponding or flooding during rainstorms. Also, a large curbside leaf pile may unintentionally create a traffic hazard by extending into the roadway and hindering the flow of traffic.

Residents who do not wish to wait for their scheduled collection may instead bring their leaves to the Recycling/Conservation Center located off of Grovers Mill Road. The Center is open Mondays, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Thursdays, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and Saturdays, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Center is not for commercial use. Residents who utilize a contractor to transport their leaves are required to notify the DPW at least one business day prior to delivery. This notification allows staff to determine the difference between a legitimate residential delivery and an attempted commercial drop-off.

Updates or changes to the collection schedule are posted on the township website, www.plainsboronj.com. "We encourage all residents to adhere to the program's guidelines, thereby enabling DPW staff to operate an efficient program," stated Township Committeeman David Bander.

New License Requirements for HVACR Contractors

One of the many recent changes to the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) is the current requirements for a Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVACR) license. Contractors performing this type of regulated work are now registered with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs and are issued an HVACR license that covers a three-year period.

If your furnace or air conditioner needs replacing and you will be seeking estimates from contractors, be sure that they are

appropriately licensed. Unless you are undertaking this work yourself in a single-family home as the owner/occupant, contractors who perform this work will need to include this information on the construction permit application.

For additional information or questions about permit requirements, please contact the Code Enforcement Department at buildingdivision@plainsboronj.com or call (609) 799-0909, ext. 2545.

Clean Communities Council Honors Teen

The New Jersey Clean Communities Kids-Teens Awards honor people under the age of 18 who contribute to a clean New Jersey. The awards program creates awareness of litter and litter-related issues, promotes a cleanliness ethic, and fosters an understanding of the state's natural beauty.

This year, Plainsboro was represented by Niyati Bantval, a West Windsor-Plainsboro student and a member of Girl Scout Troop 71602. Niyati decided to do her Girl Scout Silver Award project on how the litter in Plainsboro impacts the lives of Sea Turtles and other aquatic life. Last year Niyati worked at educating the community through her "Save the Sea Turtles: Be the Solution, Not the Pollution" project. Throughout the year, she educated the community at several public events and also created a short video showing how a discarded plastic bag made its way into the ocean negatively impacting the environment.



Niyati Bantval displays the award she received from the New Jersey Clean Communities Council.

Emergency Services to Get New Radio System

With the assistance of a grant received from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Plainsboro Township Police and Emergency Medical Services will soon be switching over to the Middlesex County Radio Network (MCRN). MCRN is a state of the art radio system designed for enhanced public safety communications and improved interoperability among emergency services in Middlesex County.

The Township was awarded \$207,500 of the \$415,000 capital improvement project cost from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation located on College Road. The funds will be used to purchase the new radios and dispatch console required to enable the Township to operate on the County system.

The Township's current radio system is 20 years old. "Over the past few years we have been experiencing an increased number of 'dead spots' and environmental interference issues with our radios," stated Chief of Police Guy Armour. "There are times and places within the Township when my officers have no

radio communication back to our dispatch center. It is definitely a safety concern that we will be happy to see resolved," he added.

As part of the project Middlesex County has agreed, at no cost to the Township, to install and maintain a new infrastructure site for their system on the Township's existing radio tower currently located on municipal grounds. The addition of this site to the County's radio system will not only improve coverage within Plainsboro but will also add to the overall performance of the system. "This cooperative partnership between Plainsboro and the County is beneficial to not only our residents but to emergency service workers throughout the area," commented Mayor Peter Cantu. "We are extremely pleased to have received the grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and are very grateful for their support and continued commitment to the local community."

The new system should be fully operational by the end of the year.

Keeping Our Pedestrians Safe

New Jersey experiences a disproportionate number of motor vehicle crashes involving pedestrian injuries and fatalities compared to the nation as a whole. To combat the problem, the Plainsboro Township Police Department began implementing a comprehensive pedestrian safety program involving Education, Enforcement, and Engineering. The program is funded by a State grant obtained by the Plainsboro Police Department's Traffic Division.

The Education component of the pedestrian program involves getting the pedestrian safety message to all members of the community, with a special emphasis on three high-risk groups: children, senior citizens and non-English speaking residents. The Enforcement component involves targeted police patrols at high-volume pedestrian locations within the community.

These patrols are designed to target both motorists and pedestrians whose actions put pedestrians at risk. Both motor vehicle and pedestrian laws will be emphasized. The Engineering component will explore traffic engineering improvements such as enhanced crosswalks, signs, and signals, an example of which would be the recent addition of retro-reflective stop sign posts in many locations throughout the Township.

Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis stated, "The most important message for our community is that pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility, and pedestrians and motorists must both do their part to keep our residents and visitors safe. Drivers should be mindful of the need to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and pedestrians are reminded to be observant before crossing the road."

New Police Recruit Saves Life



Ptl. Jeffrey Puckett

One of Plainsboro Police Department's newest officers began serving the public even before he graduated from the police academy. While attending the Mercer County Police Academy, police recruit Jeffrey Puckett and three other recruits from area departments witnessed a 70-year-old man suffer a heart attack while exercising in Veterans Park, Hamilton

and fell unconscious, Puckett and his colleagues immediately jumped into action administering CPR, calling 911 and directing the ambulance to their location. Puckett was one of the recruits who administered CPR to the victim until EMS arrived and transported him to the hospital.

"We are very proud of Patrolman Puckett and his ability to act quickly and put his new skills to work to save a life," stated Chief of Police, Guy Armour. Patrolman Puckett graduated from the Police Academy in April, and was presented the department's Life Saving Award by Chief Armour during his swearing in at the Township Committee meeting on July 12th.

Township. When the man experienced difficulty breathing

At your service . . .

Township Clerk's Office 799-0909, extension 2547

2017 Election Schedule

Election	Date	Location	Polling Hours	Close of Registration (21 days prior)	Last Day to Apply for Mail-In Ballot	Last day to apply for a mail-in ballot in person to County Clerk (by 3:00pm)
GENERAL	11/07/17	By District	6:00am-8:00pm	10/17/17	10/31/17	11/06/17

Pet Licenses

New Jersey State law mandates that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed. Applications are available for all new pets in the Township Clerk's Office at 641 Plainsboro Road. Proof of rabies vaccination must be submitted with the application. **According to state regulation, when licensing, the rabies vaccination immunity must extend through at least ten (10) months of the 12-month licensing period.** Therefore, licenses cannot be issued if the rabies vaccination expires before November 1st of each year. If for any medical reason the animal cannot be vaccinated in the required time, form VPH-28 must be completed by the veterinarian and submitted with the form. Submit a copy of the spay/neuter certificate, if applicable. The license fees are \$13.20 for spayed/neutered animals and \$16.20 for non-neutered animals. Late fees of \$5.00 per month are assessed as of February 1st.

To assist pet owners, a **Free Rabies Clinic** has been scheduled for November 4, 2017 at the Plainsboro Public Works garage. Dogs are scheduled for 9:00am to 10:00am and cats are scheduled for 10:00am to 11:00am. Owners must have large dogs securely leashed. Very small dogs and cats should be in a pet carrier.

Public Works Department 799-0099

Conservation Center Hours

Through December 8th, the center will be open Monday and Thursday from 5:30pm - 7:30pm and Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm.

Brush/Leaf Collection

For the purpose of collecting curbside brush and leaves, the Township is divided into two sections.

Section 1- Beechtree Lane, Brentwood/Shallow Brook Estates, Cypress Court, George Davison Road, Grace Court, Mapleton Road, Perrine Road, Princeton Collection, Princeton Crossing, Princeton Manor, Serina Drive and Woodland Drive

Section 2 - Brookside Court, Cooks Corner, Cranbury Neck Road, Dey Road, Eiker Road, Gentry, Grovers Mill Estates, Grovers Mill Road, Heritage Way, Mayfarth Terrace, Millstone Court, Nostrand Road, Okeson Street, Petty Road, Plainsboro Road, Pollack Court, Ponds End, Scotts Corner Road, Stults Drive, Sullivan Street, Village Area and Walker Gordon Estates.

Brush Collection Schedule/Guidelines

In Section 1, brush will be collected in April, June, August and October. In Section 2, brush will be collected in March, May, July and September. Brush must be curbside by 7:00am on the first Monday of the month designated for your section ONLY. Brush left curbside during non-scheduled months is subject to fines and removal costs. When using this service, please follow these guidelines:

- Stack brush lengthwise at curbside between sidewalk and curb. Do not place brush in the street or within 10' of any catch basin.

Vital Records

The local registrar is responsible for maintaining vital records of births, marriages/civil unions, domestic partnerships and deaths that occurred in Plainsboro Township. The municipality that holds the original record is the only registrar, besides the State Registrar, that can issue a certified copy.

A Certified Copy of a vital record is issued to those individuals who have a direct link to the individual(s) named on the vital record, as identified in the Governor's Executive Order 18, and provided that the requestor is able to identify the vital record and can provide proof of his identity and relationship.

For more information regarding requirements and fees, call the office or visit the Township website.

- Brush cannot exceed 6 feet in length or 5 inches in diameter.
- NO roots, stumps, soil, tree logs, grass or any other debris.

Leaf Collection Schedule/Guidelines

In Section 1, leaves will be collected from October 16th through October 27th and again from November 13th through November 29th (weather permitting). In Section 2, leaves will be collected from October 30th through November 10th and again from November 30th through December 15th (weather permitting). Leaves must be curbside for collection no earlier than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled pickup date. When using this service, please follow these guidelines:

- Leaves should be raked to the curb, no closer than ten (10) feet from storm drain inlet and must be free of debris.
- Leaves that are mixed with grass, branches, soil, etc. will not be picked up.

Residents not wishing to wait for their scheduled collection date can bring their brush/leaves to the conservation center during normal operating hours.

Curbside Recycling Schedule

September 9th, 18th; October 2nd, 16th, 30th; November 13th, 27th

Final 2017 Bulk Waste Day

November 4th from 8:00am-5:00pm at the conservation center.



PLAINSBORO

Township of Plainsboro
641 Plainsboro Road
Plainsboro, NJ 08536-2094

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

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Neil J. Lewis, Deputy Mayor
David Bander
Nuran Nabi
Edmund C. Yates

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR

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Township Directory and Information

Plainsboro Township Municipal Offices

Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: General 609-799-0909
Court 609-799-0863
Hours of Operation:
Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm
Website: www.plainsboronj.com

Like us on Facebook at
Facebook.com/PlainsboroTwpNJ

Register at: <http://www.plainsboronj.com> to receive notifications from township officials and to request services online.

Plainsboro Public Library

Location: 9 Van Doren Street
Phone: 609-275-2897
Hours of Operation:
Monday – Thursday 10:00am-8:30pm
Friday – Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm
Website: www.lmxac.org/plainsboro

Plainsboro Police Department

Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: Non-Emergency 609-799-2333
Emergencies 9 1 1
Website: www.plainsboropolice.com

Plainsboro Recreation and Cultural Center

Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: General 609-799-0909, press 6
Email recdept@plainsboronj.com

Plainsboro Public Works Department

Location: Scotts Corner Road at
20 Woodland Drive
Phone: 609-799-0099
Recycling Center, Bulk Waste
See Page 7 for details or visit website

Other Useful Numbers

School District Information
609-716-5000
Report Street Light Out to
PSE&G 1-800-436-7734
Report Potholes to
Public Works 799-0099
New Jersey American Water
1-800-272-1325

Township Meetings

All meetings are held at 7:30pm in the Municipal Building, 641 Plainsboro Road, unless otherwise noted.

Development Review Committee
3rd Tuesday, 7:00pm

Environmental Advisory Committee
4th Monday, 7:00pm or as needed
Call 609-799-0909, x1502
for more information

Fire Commissioners
2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm
at firehouse

Shade Tree Advisory Committee
2nd Monday

Township Committee
Regular Mtg. 2nd Wednesday
Agenda Mtg. 4th Wednesday

Planning Board
1st & 3rd Monday

Zoning Board
1st Wednesday