

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing with urgency to ask that you postpone your vote scheduled to occur Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at the Joint Meeting of the Borough and Township to allow yourselves and your constituents sufficient time to read the extensive reports issued by the Joint Consolidation Study Commission, the Commission's consultant and the Department of Community Affairs – all having been finalized within the last month creating a considerable volume of work to be digested in a relatively short time. This will allow for a better understanding and review and will foster a more informed public hearing.

What is the rush to vote next week to place the question on the November ballot? Surely there remains sufficient time for a legal filing.

The timing of the release of the final recommendation and the concurrent vote to place the question on the ballot is suspect – occurring when many of your constituents are vacationing or busy enjoying the summer with little thought to a November public question of such importance. As I recall had the original mandated timetable been adhered to, the Joint Commission would have completed its task sometime in the late spring with the final recommendations coming much earlier in the year. Such a timetable would have given considerable time and review and public comment before a vote to advance the question to the ballot.

Hopefully this is not a pro forma vote of simply passing the onus on to your constituents – hopefully you have all read the materials, raised your questions and concerns and that you are confident in your vote to placing the question on the November ballot without hesitation– that is what your constituents deserve and expect.

I am asking that you hesitate for a few weeks to let your constituents digest what has been presented before having to appear at a public hearing on the matter.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of my request.

Best regards,

Kate Warren