

**APRIL 7, 2016, COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOROUGH OF MT. EPHRAIM
BOROUGH HALL MEETING ROOM**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER/OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order at 8:01pm and announced that this meeting has been advertised and posted in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act". He then led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll with Commissioner Gilmore, Commissioner Tovinsky and Mayor Wolk all present.

OTHER OFFICIALS ON THE DAIS

Borough Solicitor – Eric Riso
Borough Engineer – Jim Spratt
Borough Clerk – Terry Shannon

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve the minutes from February 23, 2016, caucus meeting and the March 3, 2016, commission meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Wolk announced that vouchers in the amount of \$717,292.28 were submitted for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the vouchers as submitted were approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes.

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinances are being considered for adoption tonight:

- Ord. 01-16 Amending Chapter 43, Cats, and Chapter 44, Dogs, in the Borough Code
- Ord. 02-16 Amending Chapter 89 entitled Taxation
- Ord. 03-16 Calendar Year 2016 Ordinance to Exceed Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and Establish a CAP Bank.

Mayor Wolk then opened the public hearing and asked if you have any questions, please state your name and address and public comments are limited to five minutes. Nancy Bonsall from Cherry Hill stood and said that she was representing the New Jersey Residents Against Puppy Mills and she wanted to thank the governing body for considering the ordinance (No. 01-16).

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, Ordinances No. 01-16, 02-16 and 03-16 were adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinance is being introduced on first reading tonight:

- Ord. 04-16 Amending the Fee for Dougherty Senior Community Center Hall Rentals

Mayor Wolk then announced that this ordinance will be considered for adoption following proper notice and a public hearing to be held during the May 5 commission meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Wolk announced that the resolutions would be approved as a Consent Agenda and asked the Clerk to read the resolutions which she read as follows:

- 30-16 Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Stratford for the Services of an Electrical Sub-code Official/Inspector
- 31-16 Authorizing a Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 32-16 Authorizing Submission of a 2015 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application
- 33-16 Approving Change Order No. 1-Final, Resurfacing of Second Avenue Project
- 34-16 Extending the Deadline for Dog Licensing

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the resolution consent agenda was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Police Department report for the month of March, 2016, reporting they had 736 calls and assigned 366 case numbers. He read highlights of some of the calls. He reported that they had 37 adult arrests and read highlights of the offenses. Commissioner Gilmore then read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department for the month of March reporting that they responded to a total of 28 calls and he read highlights of the calls. He also reported that they had three drills.

Commissioner Tovinsky reported that total trash tonnage was 167 tons which were taken to Camden. He read highlights of Public Works activities including prepping the fields for opening day and removal of graffiti at the parks. Bellmawr did a manhole repair for us through the shared service. They also hung new lights in the attic in the Tax Office and put a floor down in the attic. It was another busy month.

Engineer Jim Spratt reported that Grant Avenue bid opening is scheduled for April 20. We applied for Discretionary Aid for drainage improvements for that project but have not received a response from DOT yet. Ramp project is just about complete except for punchlist items. We just received Municipal Aid from DOT for Lowell and Harding Avenues in the amount of \$200,000. Regarding the Clear Channel billboard, we are waiting for structural calculations. The Clerk added that they are in the package that she handed to him tonight.

Mayor Wolk read the Tax Collector's report for the month of March reporting that total receipts were \$142,053.03 and lien redemptions were \$101,457.38. We did receive \$200,000 for Lowell and Harding from the State and we are grateful for those funds. We introduced the 2016 Budget at our March 29 workshop. The increase will be about \$52.00 per year for the average assessment which is \$1.00 per week. It will be posted on our website and the public hearing will be at the May 5 commission meeting. It is being reviewed by the state so we hope to be able to adopt then as well. We try to keep it lean and mean and this is a fair budget. We understand this is the residents' money. Also this month is the Craft Show on April 30. Little League opens up on Saturday and hopefully the weather will cooperate. Mayor Wolk added that we do have a budget message available and copies are on the table.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Wolk opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name and address for the record.

Mike Williams, Safety Coordinator for Bellmawr and Mount Ephraim, reported he attended the annual safety breakfast and we received a \$1200.00 safety award and we should be receiving the check shortly. He also presented an award for zero lost-time accidents in 2015 and thanked the governing body for the appointment as safety coordinator. It is a pleasure to work with all the departments. Mayor Wolk thanked Mike for his service.

Mayor Wolk then added that we recently lost Gloria Marsh Jankowski who was the librarian for many years in Mount Ephraim. She passed away a few weeks ago. We extend our condolences to the family and the commissioners will be making a donation to the Animal Welfare Society on her behalf.

Chief Conte reported that the rabies clinic will be April 16 at the Dougherty Center.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Shannon
Municipal Clerk