

**SEPTEMBER 1, 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 8:00pm 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 Deputy 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 – Joe Federici
Deputy Borough Clerk – Tara Martin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve the minutes July 26 2016, caucus and closed session meetings and the August 4, 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 \$1,282,610.08 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 asked the Deputy Clerk to read the following ordinances for public hearing and adoption:

- 11-16 Enacting Chapter 109 of the Borough Code Entitled “Buildings, Public”
- 12-16 Revising, Amending and/or Supplementing Chapter 87 of the Borough Code Entitled “Swimming Pools” and Chapter 99 of the Borough Code Entitled “Zoning”
- 13-16 Establishing the 2016 Salaries of Police Department Employees Covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements

Mayor Wolk then opened the public hearing and asked for public comment. Seeing no 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, the ordinances were adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes. The ordinances were adopted.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Wolk announced that the following resolutions would be approved as a Consent Agenda:

- 67-16 Awarding a Contract to Route 23 Automall LLC for Purchase of a New 2016 Dump Truck with Plow and Spreader in the Amount of \$128,827.10
- 68-16 Resolution Approving Changing the Name of Little Timber Creek to Sassackon Creek

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 COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department for the month of August. They had a total of 38 incidental calls and he read highlights of the calls. He then reported that the Mount Ephraim Police Department had 615 calls for August and they assigned 342 case numbers. He read highlights of some of the offenses. They had 22 adult arrests and he read highlights of the arrests. He wished speedy recovery to Officer Bernauer who was involved in an accident. Commissioner Gilmore reminded everyone school opens next week and to drive carefully.

Commissioner Tovinsky reported that for the month of August, the Construction Office issued 18 permits for a total of \$4291.00. In Public Works, trash tonnage collected was 168 for a disposal cost of \$11,229.00. Public Works has been busy maintaining vacant properties. Fire Marshal inspected our building and all passed. Met with engineers regarding drainage issued on Bell Avenue and they are working on possible solutions.

Engineer Joe Federici reported that the Grant Avenue project was awarded but is still on hold because of the state funding. For 2016 DOT funding, we submitted the plans for Harding and Lowell to DOT today for their approval. We will also be submitting plans for drainage improvements to Linden Avenue to the state this month for their review.

Mayor Wolk read the Tax Collector's report for the month of August reporting that total receipts were \$2,577,311.47 and lien redemptions were \$12,232.29. As the engineer reported, we are ready to go to work on our road projects but the state has not released the funds. We hope to see that resolved soon. We will be here again September 27 at 3pm for our workshop and October 6 for the public meeting. He wished everyone a safe Labor Day weekend.

Commissioner Tovinsky added that next week we will be receiving our new dump truck.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Jacob Garcia, 54 Linden Avenue, asked how the borough plans for hurricanes—do we discuss potential hazards in advance? Mayor Wolk responded that if a state of emergency is declared, the Office of Emergency Management, managed by Jay Vilardo, takes over all operations for the emergency. Commissioner Gilmore added that OEM would open their headquarters and staff it 24/7. They are volunteers and all really know what they are doing. Our coordinator is also the deputy to the Camden County OEM and has a lot of knowledge.

Garcia then asked how we decide what purchases to make, such as the new dump truck. Mayor Wolk explained that we discuss such purchases in our workshop. We hold budget workshops where we do planning and the department heads submit their list of needs. Commissioner Tovinsky added that regarding the purchase of the new dump truck, with the big snowstorm we had earlier this year, we realized our old trucks could no longer push that much snow so we needed to buy a new one. Solicitor Riso added that once the governing body has determined what equipment is needed, under Local Public Contracts Law we have to go out to public bid. When the bids come in, they are reviewed by the department head and myself and the lowest responsible bidder is determined. Then the formal award is made.

The governing body asked Jacob about his future plans and he said he recently graduated from St. Rose and will be attending St. Joseph's Preparatory School in Philadelphia and received a scholarship. His plans are to go into neuro-science. Mayor Wolk said he attended the St. Rose graduation and heard Jacob's name mentioned times when the awards were being announced. He added that Jacob's father was a former commissioner. The governing body wished Jacob good luck with his future.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public portion was closed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Shannon
Municipal Clerk