

AUGUST 2, 2012, GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOROUGH OF MT. EPHRAIM

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order at 8:00pm.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

All present pledged their allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

ABSENT

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Commissioner Gilmore | _____ X _____ | _____ |
| Commissioner Greenwald | _____ X _____ | _____ |
| Mayor Wolk | _____ X _____ | _____ |

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

Borough Solicitor – Eric Riso
Borough Engineers – Joe Federici & Doug Akin
Borough Clerk – Terry Shannon
Tax Collector/Dep. Clerk – Marie Darlington
Police Captain—Brian Beppel

“OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW” ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Wolk read the following statement: This Meeting has been advertised and notices posted in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked if there are any corrections to the minutes as presented. Seeing none, he asked for a motion to approve the following minutes: June 26, 2012, Caucus meeting and the July 5, 2012, General meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Greenwald and seconded by Commissioner Gilmore to approve the aforementioned minutes. All were in favor.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Mayor Wolk read the voucher list total for the month as \$914,251.09. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, the bill list was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

The Clerk announced that the following ordinances are being introduced on first reading:

- 03-12 Establishing the Salaries of Borough Employees Covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements

- 04-12 Designating the 2012 Salaries for Non-union Employees and Officials

Mayor Wolk announced that these ordinances would be advertised and will be considered for adoption following a public hearing at the September commission meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the first reading of the ordinances was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes.

RESOLUTIONS:

The Mayor announced that the following resolutions would be approved as a Consent Agenda and asked the Clerk to read them into the record:

- 75-12 Authorizing Transfer of Capital Funds
- 76-12 Approving Reimbursement to the Mt. Ephraim Fire Department for Equipment Purchases
- 77-12 Authorizing Purchase of a Ford F-350 Pickup Truck Under State Contract
- 78-12 Authorizing Chapter 159 Appropriation of Item of Revenue and Expense
- 79-12 To Enter into a Construction Easement/Right-of-Way Agreement with Sharon Viola and Karen Nocella
- 80-12 To Enter into a Construction Easement/Right-of-Way Agreement with Richard Huysie
- 81-12 To Enter into a Construction Easement/Right-of-Way Agreement with the Mount Ephraim Board of Education

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

MERCANTILE LICENSES: There were no mercantile license on the agenda for approval.

BINGO AND RAFFLE LICENSES: There were no licenses on the agenda for approval.

REPORTS:

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights and statistics from the July monthly report from the police department as submitted by Acting Chief Brian Beppel. Total calls for the month were 448 and 328 case numbers were assigned. Some of the highlights were they answered 15 alarms, 44 ambulance assists, nine animal complaints, three assaults, seven burglaries, 14 domestic violence offenses, six drug offenses, nine calls for harassment, and 15 motor vehicle accidents among others. 35 adult arrests for the month and they issued 201 motor vehicle summonses. The fire department is still having computer problems so their monthly report was not available. We have completed contract negotiations with the police department. He thanked the police

department for the concerns of the residents of the town. They agreed to no increase for this year and next and a minimal increase for the following two years.

Commissioner Greenwald reported there were 18 permits issued by the Construction Department for the month of July for a total of \$1,992.00. He reported there were no safety violations or accidents in Public Works and single stream recycling for the month of July was just over 78,000 pounds and trash tonnage was a cost of \$6,244.00 and 90% went to Salem resulting in a savings of \$2,700.00 for the month. They maintained the ballfields for the month and abandoned properties; six sewer calls; turned benches for July 4th parade and set-up barricades; along with their regular duties. He added his thanks to the police for finally settling the contract-it was a long process.

Engineer Joe Federici reported that an application was submitted for a Transportation Enhancement grant to include the Streetscape Phase III. We are waiting for the NJDOT applications for the 2013 Municipal Aid. Also the plans are being prepared for the NJAWC water main installation on Second Avenue to be done later this year.

Mayor Wolk read the receipt totals from the Tax Collector report for the month of June, 2012. Total receipts were \$176,683.50. Bell Road will be under construction shortly for the drainage project. I hope the project gets done quickly. This is being funded by a grant we received from the State of \$750,000. Our next workshop is August 28 and the next public meeting will be September 6 at 8:00pm.

Mayor Wolk then opened the meeting to public comment.

Steve Eggert, 231 4th Avenue, spoke about trailers parked on the street. Boat trailers and landscaping trailers are being parked on his street overnight. The ordinance says parking shall be off-street at all times. We used to enforce this but don't seem to be enforcing recently. People may not be aware that it is not permitted. Also the weeds along the Streetscape really look bad and the problem is going to get worse. It needs to be maintained. Maybe we can ask the people who live along it help but it does need to be maintained.

Commissioner Gilmore said Acting Chief Beppel would address the trailer parking situation.

Beth Egan from Mt. Ephraim Public Schools spoke representing the Mt. Ephraim Education Association and the Paraprofessionals. They are planning an outdoor event for 9-11 from 5pm-8pm honoring hometown heroes. They are planning informational tables, community groups, patriotic crafts, ice cream and popsicles, face painting, scholarship donations, etc. They applied for a grant and believe they will get some funding to help defray the costs. They would like to do on Station Avenue by Mary Bray and closing the street off. Do they need to apply for a permit? Commissioner Greenwald asked Acting Chief Beppel for his thoughts. Brian responded that it will be less manpower intensive if we did not have to close a street and found an alternate location. He suggested either the borough parking lot or one of the little league fields. He would be available to discuss with the committee further. Mayor Wolk asked why they chose that location. Beth responded that they were going to ask the Democrat Club for use of their rest rooms. Mayor Wolk said if they used the borough lot, we can open borough hall for restroom access. After further discussion, it was decided that their group would meet with Acting Chief Beppel to come up with a plan.

Seeing no further public comment, Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to close the public portion. On a motion by Commissioners Greenwald and Gilmore, the public portion was closed.

On a motion by Commissioners Greenwald and Gilmore, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Shannon,
Borough Clerk