

**DECEMBER 3, 2015, 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 and 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 – Joe Federici and Doug Akin
Borough Clerk – Terry Shannon

“OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW” ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Wolk announced that “This meeting has been advertised and notices posted in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act.”

PRESENTATION TO RETIRED POLICE CHIEF BRIAN BEPPEL

Commissioner Gilmore read a plaque from the Police Department and the Governing Body to Chief Brian Beppel and spoke about the years working with Brian. He wished him all the best in retirement. Chief Beppel spoke from his heart and thanked his family for their support and patience over the years. He spoke about the Police Department and how much they have grown and how proud he is of the quality department they have become. He thanked the community for the support he received when tragedy struck his family a few years ago. He spoke about Commissioner Gilmore and how much he learned from him over the years and thanked him for his guidance and friendship. He thanked Commissioner Tovinsky for his support and spoke about Mayor Wolk and his true desire to make everyone around him happy. Brian then thanked Clerk Terry Shannon for her friendship and also the same to Solicitor Eric Riso. He thanked everyone for their love and support over the years. Mayor Wolk said that Brian made us proud and added he should “walk slowly in retirement but hurry back to see us”.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve the minutes from November 5, 2015, commission meeting, the September 22, 2015, caucus meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Wolk announced that vouchers in the amount of \$1,225,514.04 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

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinance is being considered for adoption tonight following a public hearing: Ordinance 11-15, Amending Chapter 35, Bingos and Raffles, in the Borough Code. Mayor Wolk opened the public hearing and asked if there were any questions or comments on the ordinance. Seeing none, 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 ordinance was adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes, Wolk-yes. Ordinance 11-15 was duly adopted.

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:

- 81-15 Designating Regular Meeting Dates and Times for 2016
- 82-15 Approving Change Order No. 1—Accessible Entrance Improvements to Borough Hall
- 83-15 Appointing Brian Conte as Acting Police Chief
- 84-15 Authorizing Participation in the Contract Negotiated by and between Camden County and Morton Salt, Inc.
- 85-15 Authorizing Advertisement for Sealed Bids for Towing Services
- 86-15 Authorizing 2015 Budget Transfers
- 87-15 Authorizing an Agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc., for Purchase of an e-Citation Data Capture System
- 88-15 Authorizing a Contract with the Animal Welfare Society of Camden County for Animal Shelter Services
- 89-15 Appropriating Items of Revenue and Expense for Grant Received

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

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the monthly report from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department for November. He then read highlights from the Mt. Ephraim Police Department monthly report for November reporting they assigned 333 case numbers. They had 27 adult arrests for the month. He extended condolences to the family of Joseph Holmes, a long-time resident and US Navy veteran. Saturday, December 12, will be the annual Christmas parade. Commissioner Gilmore wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Tovinsky reported that the Construction Office issued 34 permits for a total of \$5676.00. He then read highlights of the Public Works monthly report including trash and recycling statistics and reported on other activities performed by Public Works. He added that starting in January, all trash will go to Camden and we will no longer be using Salem County because they are raising our rates. Graffiti at Shining Star Park is really a problem and had to be removed again. He congratulated Chief Beppl on his retirement and wished everyone a great holiday.

Engineer Joe Federici reported that the ramp improvements to borough hall getting to the final stage and next will be installation of the railing. Most of the work is complete. Grant Avenue is designed and submitted to DOT for their approval. Construction will be in the spring. He added congratulations to Chief Beppl.

Mayor Wolk read the Tax Collector's report for November reporting that total receipts were \$2,226,422.16 and lien redemptions were \$15,163.07. He added congratulations to Chief Beppl and Acting Chief Conte. We will be here again on December 29 for caucus and on

January 7 for the commission meeting. He wished everyone Happy Holidays and a safe New Year's and he hopes to see everyone at the parade next Saturday.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Wolk opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name and address for the record. Seeing none, 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 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Shannon
Municipal Clerk