

FEBRUARY 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	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Commissioner Greenwald	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Mayor Wolk	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>

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.”

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Wolk read a proclamation recognizing resident Brandon M. Libby for his appearance and success on the Jeopardy TV game show. Brandon won two out of three days and brought national attention to the Borough of Mount Ephraim.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. December 27, 2011, Caucus Meeting
2. January 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 is \$822,612.13. 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.

PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES: None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: None

PUBLIC HEARING ON CHANGE OF USE FOR CDBG FUNDS

Mayor Wolk opened the public hearing asked Clerk Shannon to explain the reason for the public hearing. Clerk Shannon read the details from the accompanying resolution explaining that there were balances from prior years CDBG funds that we want to move to continue the improvements at the Charles Dougherty Senior Center. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed.

RESOLUTIONS:

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

- 11-12 To Affirm the Borough of Mount Ephraim's Civil Rights Policy
- 12-12 Approving Change Order No. 2-Final, Delaware Avenue Project
- 13-12 Authorizing Release of Performance Bond and Acceptance of Maintenance Bond for the Delaware Avenue Project
- 14-12 Authorizing Change in the Use of Years 31, 32 and 33 of CDBG funds from Removal of Architectural Barriers at Lambert Ave Facility to the Senior Center
- 15-12 Authorizing Transfers of 2011 Appropriation Reserves
- 16-12 Appointing Perry Refolo of TTI Environmental, Inc., as LSRP for the Tank Removal and Remediation Project
- 17-12 Recognizing the Creation of a Regional Fire Alliance Service Between the Municipalities of Mt. Ephraim, Audubon and Oaklyn

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: The Clerk read the following mercantile licenses for approval.

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bellmawr Auto & Tire Center | 403 S. Black Horse Pike |
| BP Gas Station | 305 S. Black Horse Pike |
| CVS Pharmacy #477 | 24 S. Black Horse Pike |
| F M Digital Services Corp. | 159 S. Black Horse Pike |
| Foulke Management Corp. | 620 N. Black Horse Pike |

Foulke Management Corp.	701 N. Black Horse Pike
Foulke Management Corp.	705 N. Black Horse Pike
Foulke Management Corp.	801 N. Black Horse Pike
Grease 'N' Go (MJM Lubrication)	237 S. Black Horse Pike
Jay Brad, Inc.(Select Machine & Tool.)	19 Thompson Ave.
Nazar, Inc. (Black Horse Diner)	152 N. Black Horse Pike
South Jersey Aikido Academy, Inc.	61 W. Kings Highway

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the mercantile licenses were approved with all in favor.

BINGO/RAFFLE LICENSES:

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve MEPRI Raffle Licenses RA-370 and RA-370A which will benefit the Kershaw Dinner Dance Committee. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, Second by Commissioner Gilmore, the raffle licenses were approved.

MOTIONS: None

REPORTS:

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights and statistics from the January monthly report from the fire department as submitted by Chief Brian Gilmore. They had a total of 27 calls for the month including two dwelling fires and 13 motor accidents. He also read the highlights from the prior year annual report. He then read highlights from the January report from the police department including a total of 390 calls and 258 case numbers assigned. He read a summary of some of the offenses for the month. Commissioner Gilmore then spoke about the serious accident that took place on Saturday involving one of our police officers and another vehicle. Fortunately, none of the injuries were serious and our officer, Mitch Malinowski, is out recovering and we wish him our best for a speedy recovery.

Commissioner Greenwald read the summary from the public works department for January. There were no safety violations or injuries for the month. Single stream recycling was 79,040 pounds. They repaired potholes in town and said if you want to report a pothole to please call public works and they will respond as soon as possible. There were 15 sewer calls; they cleaned the Second Ave pump station; brined the town for the storm that took place on January 21 and reminded everyone that we still have the possibility of snowstorms and to please remember to park on the odd side of the street and to clear your sidewalks. We had the crosswalk light replaced at Market Street and met with John Daley from CDBG regarding the improvements at the Senior Center. He then wished the Borough Clerk a happy birthday tomorrow.

Engineer Joe Federici reported that they are working with public works to prepare a report of projects planned for the year for submittal to PSE&G.

Mayor Wolk read the receipt totals from the Tax Collector report for the month of December 2011. Total receipts were \$248,871.41. He added his praise for the way all our professionals handled the accident on Saturday and that it was handled with integrity. He reported that on February 28 will be our workshop and then March 1 for the commission meeting.

Mayor Wolk then opened the meeting to public comment.

George Herquet from 801 W. Kings Highway said that he is retired and has taken up playing the fiddle. Last Sunday, he was playing in front of the 7-11 for pleasure. The manager had no problem with his playing. He was there for about three hours. Passersby began putting money in his open violin case. He was having no problem until a Mt. Ephraim police officer showed up and told him he had to move on because soliciting was prohibited. He stated he was not actually soliciting and wondered why it was a problem since the manager had no problem. Solicitor Eric Riso responded that because he had his case open, it may have given the appearance of soliciting but he had no first hand knowledge if that was the reason the officer stopped him. Captain Beppel said he was not familiar with the incident but that he would look into it and he took Mr. Herquet's number so he could get back to him.

Jerry Kappatos, 22 Valley Road, said they always hear accidents in front of the Wawa. He does not want to call Wawa a problem but there have been a lot of accidents there. The accident on Saturday shook their homes. He said on his street you can't turn right. Making a left out of the Wawa is dangerous. People pull out and stop in the middle because they can't get out. Can we make it illegal to make a left out of the driveway? This has been happening all the time and something needs to be done. Commissioner Gilmore responded that the design was a problem but it was done during the prior administration. We need to take another look at the problem to see what can be done. Captain Beppel responded that they saw this coming and met with the DVRPC and the DOT and tried to get support to change the traffic flow but we were not successful. Mr. Kappatos asked if the light at Valley Road could be moved to Fourth Avenue. Can't we push Wawa to do something else? Mayor Wolk responded that we would take another look at the situation.

Nicole Salamone from 214 James Street spoke about the house that was broken into on James. There has been a history of break-ins and drug problems on the street with abandoned houses but now that house is gone because of the fire. Her fear is now they will start breaking into homes that are occupied. She has a two and a half year-old son and does not feel safe. She has seen people scrapping in the yard of the house that burned and reported the tag number to Captain Beppel. The Captain said they are aware of the alleged incidents and have processed the information and the scenes. Commissioner Gilmore expressed sorrow that she is scared and assured her that the police will do everything they can and for her to continue to report what she sees.

Seeing no 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 8:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Shannon,
Borough Clerk