

**MARCH 7, 2013, GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOROUGH OF MT. EPHRAIM**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order at 8:03pm.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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

ROLL CALL

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

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT

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

“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.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2013, caucus meeting and the February 7, 2013, commission meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Mayor Wolk announced that vouchers in the total amount of \$768,607.45 were submitted for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, the vouchers were approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Mayor Wolk announced that we have an ordinance for introduction on first reading. He asked the Clerk to read the title of the ordinance to be introduced as follows:

Ord. 02-13 Amending Chapter 33, Animals, in the Borough Code

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the first reading of this ordinance was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes. Mayor Wolk then announced that the public hearing on this ordinance will be during the April 4 commission meeting.

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Wolk asked the Clerk to read the ordinance for public hearing and adoption:

- Ord. 01-13 Establishing the Salaries of Certain Employees Covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements

Mayor Wolk then opened the public hearing. Resident Carl Ingram asked what the salaries are. The Clerk responded that the ordinance is posted outside the meeting room on the bulletin board and is also available on the website. Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed. Mayor Wolk then asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the ordinance was adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes. Motion is carried.

RESOLUTIONS

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

- 22-13 Authorization to Cancel Taxes
- 23-13 Authorizing Renewal of the Shared Service Agreement with Barrington for Municipal Clerk Services
- 24-13 Authorizing Requests for Qualifications for Professional Services Under the Fair and Open Process
- 25-13 Authorizing Submission of the Camden County Open Space Grant Application
- 26-13 Authorizing Submission of the Year 35 Community Development Block Grant Project Description Application
- 27-13 Authorizing Cancellation of Prior Chapter 159 for a Clean Communities Grant

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 FOR APPROVAL

Mayor Wolk asked the Clerk to read the following mercantile licenses for approval.

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Canal's Liquor Store (YABA2, LLC) | 210 N. Black Horse Pike |
| Carollo's Restaurant | 1 N. Black Horse Pike |
| CDT Business Systems, LLC. | 500 N. Black Horse Pike |
| Dave's Cleaners | 10 E. Kings Highway |
| Domino's Pizza | 210 N. Black Horse Pike |

Five Talent Graphics, LLC
Hobby Workshops
Maggi Drapery
Nazar, Inc. (Black Horse Diner)
Walgreen Eastern Co., Inc.

134 W. Kings Highway
510 W. Kings Highway
136 W. Kings Highway
152 N. Black Horse Pike
20 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 FOR APPROVAL

RA-386 MEFD Draw Raffle (Phillies Tickets)
RA-387 MEPRI Basket Auction (benefits Kershaw Dance Committee)
RA-388 MEPRI 50/50 (benefits Kershaw Dance Committee)

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the license was approved with all in favor.

REPORTS:

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Police Department monthly reports for February. They responded to 415 calls and assigned 238 case numbers. Some of the offenses included eight alarms, three burglaries, five assaults, six animal complaints, 40 assists to ambulance, 11 domestic violence offenses, 10 harassments, 13 motor vehicle accidents and others. The arrests for the month were 19 adults. 20 out of town warrants were served and four officers attended training. They issued 208 motor vehicle summonses. The Commissioner then read highlights from the Mt. Ephraim Fire Department monthly report for February. They handled 21 fire calls. They put in 172 hours and total manpower was 238. This past Sunday they conducted a cold water training put on by survival experts to simulate a rescue. On behalf of the Mt. Ephraim Public Safety Department he offered condolences to the family of Paul Hartstein who was the chief of the Camden County Fire Marshal Department. In recent months some people have decided that the borough operates in social media and Facebook. We do not conduct business on Facebook or through social media. We conduct business on the first Thursday of the month and the fourth Tuesday of the month and if anyone has any questions they are welcome to attend our meetings and ask questions. We don't answer questions on Facebook.

Commissioner Gilmore stated that the building inspection report was not available. The DPW report is not complete in that the recycling tonnage was not provided. Some of the other highlights from public works was trash collection, electronics recycling, repairing potholes throughout town, cleaned-up the parks and monuments, weekly maintenance on police vehicles, responded to 10 sewer calls, treating streets a few times for potential bad weather. At 710 Black Horse Pike we had the manhole videotaped in preparation for the Taco Bell project. The heating fuel tank at DPW was removed which was a huge relief as there was no contamination. He wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Engineer Joe Federici reported that they are still waiting to hear on our application for NJDOT Local Aid funding.

Commissioner Greenwald added that there are signs on Bell Road that the first phase of work for the 295 project is beginning very shortly. Expect detours.

Mayor Wolk read the receipt totals from the Tax Collector report for the month of January, 2013. He read the details of receipts and reported that total receipts were \$917,249.39. He then read the details from the 2013 Year-end report from the Tax Collector reporting that total receipts for the year were \$12,275,991.44. The collection rate was 97.92% and congratulated Marie Darlington on a job well done. All of the grants received and fees and fines collected help the budget and we hope to get more of these in 2013. He then reported we will be here again on March 27 for the workshop and the regular meeting will be April 4. He wished everyone a Happy Easter and also Happy St. Patrick's Day. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on March 23 at Shining Star Park. He reminded everyone to refer to the Messenger for good information and thanked Janet Greenwald for a great job on that. He added that we have another shredding event on April 13 and a final book sale.

Chief Beppel added that April 13 is also opening day for Little League.

The Clerk reported to everyone that anytime there will be a public hearing on any ordinance, the notice is on the home page of the website and you can click on it to see the full ordinance. You can also request copies via email and they are free-of-charge.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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

Carl Ingram, 15 Second Avenue, congratulated Mayor Wolk on his appointment to the Mayor's Hall of Fame. He then asked if the building at 710 Black Horse Pike will be razed and Commissioner Greenwald reported that yes it would.

Steve Beach, Construction Official, asked if the people who will do the traffic survey for the Taco Bell project will be the same ones who did the survey for the Wawa project. Theresa Ingram responded that she attended the planning board meeting when they presented the Taco Bell project and they have the entrance and exit separated so there will be one way in and a separate way out which should help traffic flow. She felt the pattern they were proposing would be better than the situation at Wawa. Commissioner Greenwald added that we have requested a speed reduction on the Black Horse Pike and we are waiting for a response. Mayor Wolk added that the Board members were concerned about traffic volume. Chief Beppel added that the traffic volume will not be as heavy as at Wawa.

Lori Vertan from Audubon spoke for her mother, Ann Wetherby about tickets she received. She knows Commissioner Greenwald and he told her to come to the meeting. At this point, Commissioner Gilmore responded that borough meetings are not where we discuss traffic tickets or police incidents. She can set-up a meeting with the Chief to discuss. Chief Beppel said he would talk to her after the meeting.

Stan Witkowski, 106 4th Avenue, asked about the request for RFQ's. Exactly what services are being solicited? The Clerk responded that these are for our professional services, auditor, solicitor, bond counsel, municipal engineer, planning board solicitor and engineer and insurance risk manager. These are services we are required to have and we re-appoint them each year.

Diane Vilardo from Lincoln Avenue, reported she is back on the Board of Education. She will promote fiscal responsibility and would like to explore more shared services. She would like to know if it would be possible for the borough to do their trash pickup. They are spending about \$5000 with Waste Management and just wanted to know if a shared service would be possible. Commissioner Greenwald said Ken Jones is looking into and will report back. He will analyze if we can save them money. Diane then thanked Chief Beppel for his support of the schools. She encouraged people to hold their board members accountable. She encouraged everyone to come meet the new Superintendent of Schools. She is a breath of fresh air and the best thing to happen to the schools in 30 years. We will try to stay within the 2% CAP but it may not always be possible. She would like to create a citizens advisory committee. It takes a village to raise the children. She added that people should get involved and come out to meetings. Be part of the solution rather than the problem.

Theresa Ingram, 15 Second Avenue, asked when the borough budget would be presented. Mayor Wolk said it will be ready for next month's meeting. She then asked what kind of cardboard products can be recycled? Commissioner Greenwald said he will try to get the information from the County. The Clerk added that you can now recycle all cardboard and paper products. Commissioner Greenwald encouraged her to read the Recycler as it has good information. Tom Crehan added that we have an article that was in the Courier available that has good information as well.

Patti Kerfoot from James Street said they are having a Health Fair at Cooper Hospital. We picked Mt. Ephraim as our community and will hold a community Health Fair March 20 and 21 at Cooper Hospital. We have a lot of information for senior citizens and residents and she encouraged everyone to come out. The Clerk said if she can get the information to her, she will post it on the website.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public portion was closed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Shannon,

Borough Clerk