

**MAY 5, 2011, 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 – Doug Akin
- Borough Clerk – Terry Shannon
- Tax Collector/Dep. Clerk – Marie Darlington
- Police Chief—Ed Dobleman

**“OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW” ANNOUNCEMENT**

This Meeting has been advertised and notices posted in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act.”

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Commissioner Gilmore read a Certification of Appreciation to Officer Eric Hibbs of the Westville Police Department for his assistance with a hostage incident that occurred in Mount Ephraim. Officer Hibbs talked to the suspect for over two hours while SWAT teams got into position. He displayed restraint, compassion and professionalism and gained the suspect’s confidence while the SWAT team gained entry through the rear of the house and took the suspect into custody without incident. Chief Dobleman recommended that Officer Hibbs be awarded a commendation for his actions which were instrumental in the safe apprehension of the suspect. This commendation is to be entered onto the service record of Officer Hibbs.

Commissioner Gilmore added that hostage situations are the most stressful and Eric performed admirably and we are grateful to him for his actions.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

1. March 22, 2011, Caucus Meeting
2. April 7, 2011, 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 \$2,011,773.24. 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:**

- 07-11 Repealing Ordinance 13-10 (Amending Chapter 94B)
- 08-11 Amending Chapter 94, Traffic in the Borough Code (left turn prohibition at 4<sup>th</sup> and Black Horse Pike)

Mayor Wolk opened the public hearing on these ordinances. Commissioner Greenwald explained the left turn prohibition and that it was being enacted for safety reasons and we hope it cuts down on some of the accidents we have been having on the Pike. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, the ordinances were adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes. The ordinances are adopted.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

None at this time

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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

- RESOLUTION 32-11 Resolution Authorizing the Borough of Mount Ephraim to Apply for Funds from the Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Program
- RESOLUTION 33-11 Authorizing an Agreement with a Specialized Consulting Firm for Construction Observation and Testing for the Bell Road Fire Station Project

- RESOLUTION 34-11 Amending Agreement with the Architectural Firm for the Bell Road Fire Station Project
- RESOLUTION 35-11 Approving Change Order No. 1, to Increase the Contract Amount for the Sampling, Analysis and Reporting Relative to the Removal of an Underground Storage Tank
- RESOLUTION 36-11 Refund of 2009 Homestead Rebate Benefit
- RESOLUTION 37-11 Adjustment and Cancellation of Sewer Balances
- RESOLUTION 38-11 Authorizing the Signing of a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Barrington for Fire Marshal Services
- RESOLUTION 39-11 Appointing Members to the Planning Board
- RESOLUTION 40-11 Authorizing the Budget to be Read by Title Only at Time of Public Hearing
- RESOLUTION 41-11 Self-Examination of the Municipal Budget
- RESOLUTION 42-11 Adopting the 3-Year Cooperation Agreement with Camden County
- RESOLUTION 43-11 Authorizing a Tax Overpayment Refund

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.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2011 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Mayor Wolk opened the public hearing on the Budget. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was opened.

Hearing no question or comments on the Budget, on a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed.

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

### **APPROVAL OF MERCANTILE LICENSES:**

Mayor Wolk read the following mercantile license applicants by name for approval:

Black Horse Pike Assoc. (Jersey Girls  
Gentleman's Club)

710 N. Black Horse Pike

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

### **REPORTS:**

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Fire Department and Police Department monthly reports for April. He added that Officer Schaffer is recovering from an off-duty accident and we hope to see him back shortly. Our retired chief, Nick Salamone, is in the hospital recovering from a heart attack and we wish him well. Job well done to the Celebrations Committee, DPW and the Police Department for their work on the Craft Fair. It was a very good day.

Commissioner Greenwald reported that for the month of March there were no safety violations or accidents. Single stream recycling was over 66,000 pounds. Other items of interest was DPW has been working on repairing pot holes throughout town, Second Avenue pump station was cleaned out, they helped out with the ball fields by installing a safety fence and putting new dirt out, they helped set-up and breakdown for the Craft Fair and took care of trash removal, set-up the Easter Egg Hunt at Shining Star Park, painted speed humps, moved a few of the benches on Kings Highway and met with Bob Henry on Hartka Avenue about the repaving project that will take place in June. Also we received a letter stating that we received a Clean Communities grant in the amount of \$7,380.38 to assist with clean-up initiatives in our town. We are working on a Green Team in town and will be spreading the word. He thanked the Celebrations Committee, especially President Karen Herman and Secretary Janet Greenwald for their work and also Public Works and the Police Department for helping to make this event a success.

Engineer Doug Aiken reported that their office is preparing the plans and specifications for the Hartka Avenue project which is being funded by a DOT grant and that we should be getting started soon. Also they have been in contact with the State's design engineer for the Rt. 295 Direct Connect project to coordinate any design modifications that will impact borough facilities and they met with public works and will submit our requirements to the design engineer so they can be incorporated into the project.

Mayor Wolk read the receipt totals from the Tax Collector report for the month of March, 2011. He added that he wanted to thank the Celebrations Committee for their work on the Craft Fair. It was a great day. He also reported that the first sample ballot that was mailed out had the wrong polling place. This was a mistake on the part of the County and new ballots are being mailed. All districts will vote at MEPRI. The County apologized for the confusion. He closed with a wish for a Happy Mother's Day to all moms.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

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

Maureen Caramato from Audubon asked if there was anything we can do about the sign at Jersey Girls, particularly the words "all nude revue".

Commissioner Greenwald asked Clerk Terry Shannon if she would like to respond and she stated that she had spoken to the owner today to inform him that we were receiving complaints about the word "nude" and he responded he would talk to his sign guy and see about making revisions. It may take a little while but they would see what can be done.

Solicitor Eric Riso added that he represented to us that he would do that for us but there are no guarantees. If he changes his mind he is protected by first amendment rights and as government we have to respect that but we are taking him at his word.

Ksenia Barracliff, representing Mount Ephraim Methodist Church, reported they are having a Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 11 and they plan to have a balloon bounce and other attractions for kids and adults. They would appreciate any assistance from the police in terms of parking and crossing the street. Commissioner Gilmore said we may be able to close New Jersey Avenue from Eighth to Sixth and Chief Dobleman will follow-up.

Carl Ingram, Second Avenue, asked about Jersey Girls. Do they have a liquor license? Commissioner Greenwald said no and they are not allowed to have liquor at all. Commissioner Gilmore said the PD is aware and they will be making the necessary rounds.

Theresa Ingram asked about the Clean Communities grant. Is that for a specific project? Commissioner Greenwald said he would discuss with Ken Jones the best way to utilize those funds but they are typically used for recycling or clean-up projects. They are not for a specific project. Clerk Shannon added that grant is based on recycling tonnage from the prior year. The more we recycle, the more we get.

Commissioner Greenwald added that this Saturday the Mt. Ephraim Democrat Club is holding a town clean-up and all are invited to come out and help.

Chief Dobleman said he wanted to thank the FOP and the police department for their concessions during the budget process. Commissioner Gilmore echoed this and said we appreciate their help. Commissioner Greenwald added thanks to DPW for the same as well as the office staff.

Theresa Ingram said we know there is a zero increase for the municipal budget but what will happen with the school budget. Mayor Wolk explained that once the election is over, we will tackle the school budget and it has to be resolved by May 19.

On a motion by Commissioners Greenwald and Gilmore, meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Terry Shannon,*  
Borough Clerk