

**NOVEMBER 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 8:02pm.

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 ON THE DAIS

Borough Solicitor – CherylLynn Walters
Borough Engineers – James Spratt
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.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2013, commission meeting and the August 27, 2013, caucus meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, seconded by Commissioner Gilmore, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

Mayor Wolk announced that vouchers in the total amount of \$2,037,634.75 were submitted for approval. 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.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL ON FIRST READING

Mayor Wolk read the following ordinance is being introduced: Ordinance 08-13, Establishing the Salaries of Certain Employees of the Borough of Mount Ephraim Covered by Agreements. Mayor Wolk then opened the public hearing. He explained that we are introducing this ordinance tonight and will hold a public hearing next month. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the ordinance was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes.

RESOLUTIONS

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

- 75-13 Authorization of Payment of 2012 Delinquent County Sewer Charges Collected by Mt. Ephraim on Behalf of the CCMUA
- 76-13 Authorizing Attendance at the 2013 New Jersey League of Municipalities Convention and Advancement of Payment for Travel Expenses
- 77-13 Approving Change Order No. 1 for the Roosevelt Avenue Project

- 78-13 Appropriating Items of Revenue and Expense for Body Armor Grant Received
- 79-13 Designating Recipient for the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program
- 80-13 Approving Renewal of Liquor License for 2013-2014
- 81-13 Authorizing Application for Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Extension
- 82-13 Authorizing the Borough of Mt. Ephraim to Enter into an Employment Agreement with the Chief of Police
- 83-13 Authorizing the Borough of Mt. Ephraim to Enter into an Employment Agreement with the Captain of Police
- 84-13 Appointing Tara Martin as Registrar of Vital Statistics and Terry Shannon as Deputy Registrar
- 85-13 Authorizing 2013 Budget Transfers
- 86-13 Authorizing Submission of an Application for NJDOT Discretionary Aid Funds for Drainage/Roadway Improvements to Bell Road
- 87-13 Authorizing Signing of a Shared Service Agreement with Camden County Relative to Snow Removal Services

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, seconded 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 read the following mercantile licenses that are for approval: Greenville Cleaners & Tailoring, 402 W. Kings Highway and Growing Upscale Hair, LLC, 417 N. Black Horse Pike. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the mercantile licenses were approved with all in favor.

BINGO/RAFFLE LICENSES FOR APPROVAL

Mayor Wolk read the following Bingo/Raffle licenses for approval: RA-401, HNS Emmaus Catholic Community 2014 Calendar Raffle and BA-402, HNS Emmaus Catholic Community January-June, 2014, Bingo License. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the licenses were approved with all in favor.

REPORTS

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Fire Department monthly report for October, 2013. They answered seven alarm systems, assisted EMS two times, one building fire, four training drills, one dwelling fire, one highway hazard, eleven calls for mutual aid, three MVA's, three special assignments. Total calls for service were 29 and total man hours for calls were 103. They had total combined man hours for calls and training of 346. He then read highlights from the October report from the Mt. Ephraim Police Department. They had 425 calls and assigned 240 case numbers. They answered 17 alarms; assisted EMS 35 times; five animal complaints, six assaults, one burglary; eight domestic violence offenses, six drug offenses; one family in crisis; 18 harassment complaints, 21 motor vehicle accidents, 23 suspicious persons,

13 thefts. They had 19 adult arrests and he read highlights of the arrests. 12 officers had Alcotest refresher training. They issued 308 motor vehicle summonses. Commissioner Gilmore then reported that the borough lost three distinguished residents last month and all three were WWII veterans. He expressed condolences to the families of Charles Whitman, Mike Scott and Stanley Frenecki. They served their nation well.

Commissioner Greenwald reported that the construction report for October showed 31 permits for total fees of \$4,296.00. Public Works reports that single stream recycling was over 100,000 pounds. Also metal collection from January through October is over \$4000—the best we have ever had. They answered seven sewer calls, set-up for the Hero to Hero Run, put the shed up at the Dougherty Senior Center, set-up MEPRI for the November election and the October special election and they started leaf collection. Celebration Committee had the Halloween parade last week and it was a huge success. Congratulations to the winners. The Bell Road Bridge will be shut down starting November 12 at 10pm so they can work through the night. He then wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Engineer James Spratt reported that we held the pre-construction meeting on the Roosevelt Avenue project and the project will be done in the spring after the winter weather season. We submitted the initial payment request to DOT and we also submitted applications to DOT for 2014 Municipal Aid projects.

Mayor Wolk read the receipt totals from the Tax Collector report for the month of September, 2013. He read the details of receipts and reported that total receipts were \$265,183.21. We were given a release by the MEFD that they will hold their 19th Christmas Parade of lights on December 14 at 7pm. Santa Claus will stop at Mary Bray to light the Christmas tree. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Hanukkah. Our next workshop will be the 26th at 3pm and the official meeting will be December 5. Monday is Veterans Day and we will remember all those that past and those that are keeping us safe today. Mayor Wolk then added that we have a new way to travel on the Black Horse Pike. The DOT did the striping last week and we now have one lane in each direction with a turning lane. This was a safety issue and the DOT decided to do this.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

George Geis, 35 Lincoln Avenue, spoke on behalf of the Mount Ephraim basketball league. The two-way traffic on Station Avenue is causing a concern. They use Mary Bray in the evenings and they have over 260 kids in the League. They are concerned about the kids because of the two-way traffic and the parking and that there will be an incident out there. He saw someone blow right by him the first day of signups. He is concerned that it is dark out there at night and could be slippery in bad weather. Many parents and grandparents will be coming to the games. Commissioner Gilmore asked if literature can be sent home to the parents asking them to be courteous and cautious. George said they will be doing that and will also include information on their website. Commissioner Gilmore also suggested they can deploy the signboard to remind drivers to be careful. George also asked if we can step-up police presence and Chief Beppel said they will add it to their patrol pattern. Commissioner Gilmore also said he does not think the street lighting is adequate and asked the Chief to let him know how many lights are out there and maybe we can request more lighting from PSE&G. Commissioner Greenwald also suggested that something be put in the Messenger. The flashing sign at the corner for a while should help to alert motorists about the traffic.

Theresa Ingram, 15 Second Avenue, commented that she is concerned about the traffic change on Black Horse Pike. She is concerned about access to the new Taco Bell. Already she and her husband have seen backups. She is concerned she will not be able to make a left out of her street. She is also concerned about traffic flying down her street as motorists are trying to avoid the Pike. Can we get stop signs back to slow down traffic coming down her street? Or is it possible to have our streets be no through traffic? Commissioner Gilmore responded that the DOT told us that the stretch of road from Audubon to 295 is one of the most accident prone in the state. When Wawa was built, it got worse. He believes that making a left out of her street will actually be safer now because you are getting through one lane of traffic rather than two. Theresa said it depends on drivers not clogging the intersection. Commissioner Gilmore added that he believes the new traffic pattern will actually help the Taco Bell as it will be easier to get in and out. He also added that DOT will be monitoring the traffic signals and will have the ability to change the timing of the lights as needed to keep traffic moving. They were supposed to adjust the timing of the light before they did the striping but they missed that. The timing should be adjusted within the next week. As for traffic going down our streets, we are going to look at possible right hand restrictions during certain hours. We have so many projects affecting us right now—Bell Road, the 295 project and the Black Horse Pike. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Stan Witkowski, 106 4th Avenue, wanted to say he is glad to see that Tara has been made the Registrar—she is very good at what she does. He then asked what is going on with the Spread Eagle. Commissioner Gilmore said he has obviously not been by there in a while—it is already down! They will be coming before the planning board with their future plans.

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 8:39pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Shannon
Borough Clerk