

SEPTEMBER 6, 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 8:03pm.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

ABSENT

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Commissioner Gilmore | _____ X _____ | _____ |
| Commissioner Greenwald | _____ X _____ | _____ |
| Mayor Wolk | _____ X _____ | _____ |

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.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk asked if there are any corrections to the minutes as presented. Seeing none, he asked for a motion to approve the following minutes: July 24, 2012, Caucus meeting and the August 2, 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 as \$788,189.54. 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 ON ORDINANCES:

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinances will be considered for adoption following a public hearing:

- 03-12 Establishing the Salaries of Borough Employees Covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements

04-12 Designating the 2012 Salaries for Non-union Employees and Officials

Mayor Wolk then opened the public hearing and asked if anyone has questions or comments, to please state you name and address for the record. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing on these ordinances was closed.

Mayor Wolk then asked for a motion to adopt. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, ordinances 03-12 and 04-12 were adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

Mayor Wolk announced the following ordinances are being introduced on first reading and will be considered for adoption after proper advertising and a public hearing to be held during the October 4 commission meeting:

05-12 Amending Chapter 43-1, Animals, in the Borough Code (raises license fees)

06-12 Adding Chapter 44, Cats, to the Borough Code (prohibits feeding of feral cats)

On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the first reading of these ordinances was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Greenwald-yes; Wolk-yes.

RESOLUTIONS:

The Mayor announced that the following resolutions would be approved as a Consent Agenda and asked the Clerk to read them into the record:

83-12 Authorizing a Shared Service Agreement by and Between the Boroughs of Audubon, Collingswood, Haddon Township, Haddon Heights, Haddonfield and Oaklyn (Camden County)

84-12 Authorizing Execution of a Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement

85-12 Authorizing Transfer of CERT Trailer and Title to Camden County

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.

BINGO AND RAFFLE LICENSES:

Mayor Wolk asked for a motion to approve the following bingo licenses: BA-375, MEPRI Bingo License for the Oaklyn Cats and BA-376, MEPRI Bingo License for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. On a motion by Commissioner Greenwald, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the bingo licenses were approved with all in favor.

REPORTS:

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights and statistics from the August monthly report from the police department as submitted by Acting Chief Brian Beppel. Total calls for the month were 411 and 303 case numbers were assigned. Some of the highlights were they answered 9 alarms, 45 ambulance assists, 11 criminal mischief complaints, 10 domestic violence offenses, four drug offenses, two family in crisis, four fires, 18 harassments, 25 calls for information, 6 juvenile complaints, one liquor law violation, 21 motor vehicle accidents, 15 thefts, 10 warrants. 31 adult arrests for the month; 209 motor vehicle summonses issued. The entire police force had firearms requalification training. The fire department had 25 calls, building fire, grass fire, unauthorized burning, MVA, cooking fire confined to kitchen, total staff for month was 182 men and they put in 49.84 hours. Mt. Ephraim had a tornado touch down Tuesday night, four houses on W. Kings Highway had roof damage, 15 Jefferson had electrical service pulled from the house, four houses on Cleveland had trees down and shed damage. Residents from 15 Jefferson had to be evacuated. When a warning comes out for a tornado, people get complacent. In this case, people went outside to take pictures creating a dangerous situation. When these warnings come out, please take them seriously. Fortunately no one was hurt. Great job by police department, fire department, emergency management and DPW in removing debris.

Commissioner Greenwald reported there were 14 permits issued for a total of \$1,372.00 by the Construction Department for the month of August. He reported there were no safety violations or accidents in Public Works and single stream recycling for the month of August was just under 100,000 pounds and trash tonnage costs have dropped significantly with the change of delivering trash to Salem. They maintained the ball fields, borough properties, abandoned properties in town; responded to five sewer calls; removed flags on Kings Highway; repaired chair lift at borough hall; responded air conditioning condensation line at borough hall and replaced ceiling tiles; had carpet cleaned in police station; repainted parking lot; had painting done on County roads and painted the speed humps on Fourth Avenue. Camden County will hold a flu shot clinic on November 2 at the John West Senior Center from 9am-11am. Thanks to the County Freeholders we were awarded a \$25,000 Open Space grant by Camden County to renovate the Round House. This will allow us to make upgrades as this building is used by community organizations and Little League. Great job by everyone for their efforts after the tornado.

Engineer Joe Federici reported that they are working on the 2013 Department of Transportation Municipal Aid applications.

Mayor Wolk read the receipt totals from the Tax Collector report for the month of July, 2012. Total receipts were \$443,860.04. He added his gratitude to all the emergency responders who helped following the tornado. He cannot say enough about the professionalism of our volunteers. When he walked around after the event and saw all the volunteers who responded, he is always amazed by the work the volunteers come out and do. We were lucky and he thanked God that it was not much worse. He then spoke about the Messenger and thanked Janet Greenwald for the job she does with this. It is full of information for our residents and he cannot thank her enough. School started so please watch for the children. Next meeting will be September 25 for the workshop and October 4 for the next commission meeting. Mayor Wolk then opened the meeting to public comment.

Vickie Palaganas from Glad Tidings Church, Children's Education Director, came out tonight to talk about an event they are planning. They are holding an honorary softball tournament to

honor Reverend Bill Brendel for his 27 years of service to the community. They would like to open the event up to the whole town. October is clergy appreciation month. He left New England after building a brand new church. He felt called to Mount Ephraim to offer his services. They are always trying to reach out to the community. They do the live nativity at Christmas time. She wanted to introduce herself to everyone and wanted to ask questions as to how to get the community and leaders involved to show their appreciation to a man who has given so much of his time to the community. She understands that this is mainly a Catholic community but she was hoping the community would want to help show appreciation to Reverend Brendel. Can we partner with someone else? Is there another leader who can be recognized? They wanted to hold the games here but Commissioner Greenwald told her the fields are in use on Saturdays. If they change the time, can they use the fields?

Commissioner Greenwald responded that the senior field has been booked for 20 years on Saturdays and Sundays for a men's softball group. The smaller fields or possibly softball fields may be available. She needs to talk to the Mt. Ephraim Youth Association. They will be able to tell her if any of the fields are available. Mayor Wolk asked if they have teams together. She said not yet. He asked about the donations. Vickie responded people can contribute \$20 per player or possibly \$40 per household. The proceeds would go to Pastor Brendel for use by the church. They are facing financial difficulty in these tough economic times and since October is clergy appreciation month, it was the perfect opportunity to try and raise funds and also honor the Pastor. Mayor and Commissioners responded there will be a Family Fun Night to honor emergency responders on September 11 and perhaps they could have a presence at that event. Solicitor Eric Riso added that the borough cannot get involved with supporting such an event because of separation of church and state. Commissioner Gilmore added that the Family Fun Night will have town organizations present and that would be a good opportunity for them to reach out to the community. Clerk Shannon said she would email contact information for that event to Vickie.

The governing body recognized Eagle Scout candidate Chris O'Donnell from Haddon Heights High School for his attendance at tonight's meeting.

Seeing no further 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