

**THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020, MOUNT EPHRAIM COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM AT 7:00PM**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER/OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and the "Open Public Meetings Act" statement as it pertains to the current Covid-19 Public Health Emergency.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll with Commissioner Gies, Commissioner Tovinsky and Mayor Wolk present. Also participating in the Zoom meeting for the Borough were Solicitor Eric Riso, Engineer Greg Fusco, and Clerk Terry Shannon.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION

Resolution 47-20, Designating the Mayor of the Borough of Mount Ephraim, was approved on a motion by Mayor Wolk, second by Commissioner Gies with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes. Mayor Wolk explained that he was stepping down as mayor to give Commissioner Tovinsky an opportunity to serve as mayor. He will remain on as Commissioner until the end of his term. Resolution 47-20 was finally approved with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. Solicitor Eric Riso administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Tovinsky and he took over to run the rest of the meeting. Everyone extended congratulations to Mayor Tovinsky.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Mayor Tovinsky announced that the minutes from the June 4, 2020, Zoom commission meeting and the June 23, 2020, Zoom caucus meeting were distributed and asked for any corrections. Seeing none, on a motion by Commissioner Wolk, second by Commissioner Gies, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Tovinsky announced that vouchers in the amount of \$162,970.49 were submitted for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Gies second by Commissioner Wolk, the vouchers as submitted were approved with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes.

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

The Clerk read the following ordinances by title:

- Ord. 2020-06 Establishing the July, 2020 Salaries of Police Department Employees Pursuant to the Contract with FOP Lodge #76
- Ord. 2020-07 Establishing the 2020 Salaries of Certain Employees of the Borough of Mount Ephraim Covered by Collective Bargaining Agreements
- Ord. 2020-08 Establishing the 2020 Salaries of Non-union Employees and Officials of the Borough of Mount Ephraim
- Ord. 2020-09 Authorizing the Sale of Certain Mount Ephraim Borough Owned Property Pursuant to an Asset and Purchase Agreement with NJAW Co.
- Ord. 2020-10 Authorizing the Sale of Certain Mount Ephraim Borough Owned Property Pursuant to an Asset and Purchase Agreement with NJAW Co.

Mayor Tovinsky opened the public hearing on these ordinances and asked for any questions or public comment. Seeing none, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the public hearing was closed. On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by

Commissioner Wolk, ordinances 2020-06, 07, 08, 09, and 10 were finally adopted with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tosinvky-yes. The ordinances were duly adopted.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

The Clerk read the following ordinances by title:

Ord. 2020-12 Appropriating \$65,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for Preliminary Costs Associated with the Cleveland Avenue Area Environmental Project

Ord. 2020-13 Authorizing the Completion of Various Capital Improvements in and for the Borough of Mount Ephraim; Appropriating the Sum of \$510,279 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Mount Ephraim, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to \$508,279, Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions I Connection with the Foregoing

Ord. 2020-14 Amending Chapter 94 Entitled "Animals" and Chapter 165 Entitled "Fees" in the Code of the Borough of Mount Ephraim

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the ordinances were approved on first reading with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. Mayor Tovinsky announced that these ordinances will be posted for 30 days and will be considered for adoption at the August 6 commission meeting.

RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

The Clerk read the following resolutions by title for approval by consent agenda:

48-20 Authorizing a Refund of Overpayment of Taxes

49-20 Approving a Totally Exempt Veteran

50-20 Authorizing Cancellation of Interest on Taxes

51-20 Authorizing a Chapter 159 Budget Amendment for Clean Communities Grant Received

52-20 Authorizing an Agreement with Camden County for Reimbursement of COVID-19 Expenditures under the CARES Act Program

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the resolution consent agenda was approved with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. Resolution consent agenda was approved.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD

Michael "Traz" Tovinsky will be the Class I member coinciding with his term as Mayor
George Gies will be the Class III member for a one-year term expiring June of 2021

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gies read highlights from the monthly reports submitted by Municipal Court for May, and the Police and Fire Department monthly reports for the month of June. The police had 49 adult arrests and he read highlights of the charges. He reported that the fire department was out yesterday for trees that were down but it was not as bad as the previous storm. He read highlights of the fire department calls for the month. They had online training and in-person drills. The Memorial wreath placement will be at 10am on July 4 and the freedom bell will be rung at 10am at the Dougherty Center.

Mayor Tovinsky read highlights from the June monthly reports submitted by the Public Works Department. We did a shared service with Bellmawr for asphalt replacement on Cleveland Avenue.

We had to have three trees removed behind the DPW complex because they had pulled down a wire. We had a couple trees at Shining Star Park that we were able to handle ourselves. Construction Department issued 12 permits for \$5,854 and four vacant property registrations for \$5,250. They did five resale CO's for \$600. We made over \$500 on metal recycling for the month.

Borough Engineer Greg Fusco, Jr., reported they submitted the NJDOT Municipal Aid applications for Lake Street and reached out to Adelaide Colon from PSE&G regarding possible assistance with restoration of that roadway. She will look into it and will get back to us. We also contacted Pioneer Pipe about the July 27 start date for Bell Road drainage project. We will notify the residents in the area. Regarding James Street, we notified Barrett of the revised time frame. We asked them to submit a revised schedule to our office.

Commissioner Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for June 2020, reporting total receipts of \$425,806.33 and lien redemptions of \$9,753.45. Staff will return to the office on July 6 for regular hours Monday through Thursday and will work from home on Fridays. All staff is set-up to work from home. We will remain closed to the public. We will make appointments for residents who need specific assistance. We will revisit this in August. He again congratulated Mayor Traz on his appointment as mayor.

The Clerk noted a correction on the resolution to appoint Traz as Mayor. It said his term will run until 2022 but it should say 2023.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Tovinsky opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name and address for the record. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the public portion was closed.

Seeing no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk