

**THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020, MOUNT EPHRAIM COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
BOROUGH HALL MEETING ROOM**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER/OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order at 7:05pm with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and the "Open Public Meetings Act" statement.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll with Commissioner Gies, Commissioner Tovinsky and Mayor Wolk present. Also on the dais were Solicitor Eric Riso, Engineer Erika Vardaxis and Clerk Terry Shannon.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

The Governing Body presented a proclamation to retiring DPW employee Michael Hughes and congratulated him on 32 years of dedicated service to the Borough of Mount Ephraim.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the February 6, 2020, commission meeting were distributed and asked for any corrections. Seeing none, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Wolk announced that vouchers in the amount of \$1,433,586.09 were submitted for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky second by Commissioner Gies, the vouchers as submitted were approved with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes.

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinance is being considered for adoption this evening:

Ord. 2020-02 Amending Chapter 165 Entitled "Fees" and Chapter 183 Entitled "Fire Prevention" in the Borough Code

The Mayor then opened the public hearing on this ordinance. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, Ord. 2020-02 was finally adopted with the following poll vote: Tovinsky-yes; Gies-yes; Wolk-yes. Ordinance 2020-02 was adopted.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

Mayor Wolk asked the Clerk to read the following ordinances that are being introduced on first reading this evening and will be considered for adoption after proper notice and a public hearing to be held during the April 2 commission meeting:

2020-03 Amending and Supplementing Article II of Chapter 85 of the Borough Code to Expand the Permitted Issuance of Class A Liquor Licenses for Limited Breweries, Restricted Breweries (Brewpubs), Instructional Winemaking Facilities and Limited Distilleries

2020-04 Amending and Supplementing Article IV of Chapter 525 of the Borough Zoning Ordinance to Permit Limited Breweries, Restricted Breweries, Instructional Winemaking Facilities and Limited Distilleries in the C Commercial Zoning District

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the first reading of ordinances 2020-02 & 2020-03 was approved with the following poll vote: Tovinsky-yes; Gies-yes; Wolk-yes.

RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Wolk asked the Clerk to read the resolutions that are to be approved by Consent Agenda. She read them as follows:

- 18-20 Authorizing Submission of a Camden County Open Space Grant Application
- 19-20 Approving 2019 Retroactive Budget Transfers
- 20-20 Awarding a Contract to Pioneer Pipe for the Bell Road Drainage Project
- 21-20 Authorizing Selection of Professionals under a Fair and Open Process
- 22-20 Resolution for Computation of Reserve for Uncollected Taxes for the 2020 Budget
- 23-20 Approving Renewal of Mercantile Licenses for 2020
- 24-20 Waiving a Bingo Application Fee for the Mt. Ephraim Fire Department
- 25-20 Authorizing a Refund of Overpayment of Taxes

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

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gies read highlights from the monthly reports submitted by the Police Department, Municipal Court and the Fire Department. He also reported that the Fire Department had a dwelling apartment at Willow Glen on the Black Horse Pike at 2am. Everyone worked hand in hand and the incident was handled well with no injuries. They also assisted in with a fire in Haddon Heights and tonight they provided mutual aid to Pennsauken.

Commissioner Tovinsky read highlights from the reports submitted by the Construction Office and Public Works. We finally got some movement on 204 Center Avenue. The property is finally being addressed. They are in the process of cleaning up the property.

The Borough Engineer reported that the James Street project is supposed to start at the end of this month and into April. Bell Road is being awarded to Pioneer Pipe and that work is scheduled for this summer.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector’s report for February 2020, reporting total receipts of \$1,001,794.62 and lien redemptions of \$35,663.65. We hope to have the budget ready for the next meeting. We will be here again on March 24 for our workshop and April 2 for the commission meeting. He wished everyone a happy St. Patrick’s Day and reminded that we move the clocks ahead this weekend. Change the batteries in your smoke detector. Also Little League opens April 4. The newsletter will be going out next week—hold onto it as it contains a lot of information. Our new website will be rolling soon.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Wolk 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 Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the public portion was closed.

Seeing no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk