

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019, COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOROUGH OF MT. EPHRAIM
BOROUGH HALL MEETING ROOM**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER/OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT

Mayor Wolk called the meeting to order at 7:00pm 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the November 7, 2019, 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 \$1,385,312.20 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.

ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

None at this time. Mayor Wolk announced that a public hearing will be held during the December 30 caucus meeting at 3:00pm on Ordinance 2019-12, Amending Chapter 165 entitled “Fees” and Chapter 183 entitled “Fire Prevention”.

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:

- 87-19 Setting the Dates for 2020 Caucus and Commission Meetings
- 88-19 Authorizing Renewal of the Contract with Homeward Bound for Animal Shelter Svcs.
- 89-19 Appointing Dominic Grassi and William Jeffries as Class II Special Police Officers
- 90-19 Authorizing a Contract with Richard Caribelli, Jr., to Perform Appraisal Services
- 91-19 Authorizing the Purchase of a Police Vehicle through the ESCNJ Cooperative
- 92-19 Authorizing the Purchase of a Vehicle for OEM through the ESCNJ Cooperative
- 93-19 Approving a Mercantile License for 2019

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: Police Department report for November 2019—they answered six alarms, 61 ambulance calls, seven assaults, two overdoses, three fraud cases, eight harassment, two sex

offender registrations, two MVA's, 27 suspicious persons or vehicles, five shoplifting, 10 thefts, 31 vacation checks, 13 wellbeing checks, four 9-1-1 verifications, one missing person. Officers made 245 car stops and issued 315 motor vehicle summonses. They served 21 warrants, had 42 adult arrests and he read highlights of the arrests including six assault, one burglary, one disorderly conduct, six hindering, 14 possession of CDS, four for possession or drug paraphernalia, two for possession of synthetic cannabis, one for public consumption of alcohol, one receiving stolen property, three shoplifting, two for theft and one for trespassing. For the Fire Department, they had 28 incidents including three investigations, ten mutual aid, three gas leaks, three dwellings, six alarm systems, two MVA's, one CO detector. They had a fire at the Black Horse Pike Diner and did a wonderful job. It could have been a lot worse. The Fire Department is hosting the 24th annual Christmas parade at 7pm on December 14. He then read the court report for October and reported they turned over \$15,574.22 to the Borough.

Commissioner Tovinsky: Construction office report for November, 2019—they issued 18 permits for a total of \$3,466, five vacant property registrations for \$2,500 and eight resale CO's for a total of \$960. For Public Works—single stream recycling was 43,600 pounds and trash tonnage was 170 tons for a cost of \$13,277. They collected 7940 pounds of metal for \$295. The County was working on the gutter problem at Remington and Sartori and the water is now draining properly which should help with icing. The CCJIF conducted a loss control survey at Public Works and we are doing a great job of housekeeping at the complex. Hope to see everyone at the Christmas parade on the 14th and he wished everyone a great holiday.

Engineer Doug Akin from Federici and Akin reported on the following items:

- NJDOT James Street project—request for bids is being advertised and bid opening will be December 19. Construction is planned for the spring when the weather gets better and after NJ American Water does their sewer work.
- Discretionary Aid Bell Road drainage project will also be going out to bid in the next couple of weeks.
- We received notice from NJDOT that we got \$245,000 for Linden and Adams Avenue repaving.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for November, 2019, reporting total receipts of \$2,130,429.58. We did get the letter from NJDOT that we received another award for \$245,000 for Linden and Adams Avenues and we will getting those streets repaired. We have really been getting a lot of grants for road projects. We hope to see everyone at the parade of lights on December 14. Our next workshop will be December 30 at 3pm and the commission meeting will be January 2 at 7pm. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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 of the meeting was closed.

Seeing no further business to be transacted, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:15pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk