

**FEBRUARY 7, 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 Gilmore, Commissioner Tovinsky and Mayor Wolk present. Also on the dais were Solicitor Chris Norman, Engineer Doug Akin and Clerk Terry Shannon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the November 27, 2018, caucus meeting and the January 3, 2019, commission meeting were distributed and asked for any corrections. Seeing none, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Wolk announced that vouchers in the amount of \$652,937.43 were submitted for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky second by Commissioner Gilmore, the vouchers as submitted were approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-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:

- 08-19 Authorizing Transfer of 2018 Appropriation Reserves
- 09-19 Authorizing the Clerk to Advertise for Sealed Bids for Towing Services
- 10-19 Authorizing Execution of a Shared Service Agreement with Stratford for Electrical Official Services
- 11-19 Authorizing Execution of a Shared Service Agreement with Brooklawn for Building Inspector Services
- 12-19 Authorizing Refund of Tax Overpayment
- 13-19 Authorizing the Joint Land Use Board to Conduct a Reexamination of the Master Plan in Accordance with the Requirements of the Municipal Land Use Law
- 14-19 Authorizing Approval of 2019 Mercantile Licenses
- 15-19 Authorizing the Borough to Apply for Community Development Block Grant Funds for 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

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

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department report for January of 2019. They had four drills, responded to two motor vehicle accidents, eight calls for mutual aid, conducted three fire investigations, responded to five gas leaks, two building fires and one vehicle fire. They had a total of 255 volunteer man hours and 33 calls. He then read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Police Department report for January. They had 650 calls and assigned 766 case numbers. He read highlights of the calls and offenses and the adult arrests. They served 22 out-of-town warrants and issued 265 motor vehicle summonses. He asked Chief Conte to report on the two charges that were filed for selling Juul pods to minors and Chief Conte reported that they learned the convenience store was selling these to minors and the owner was cited twice for these offenses.

Commissioner Tovinsky reported that Public Works collected single stream recycling of 83,240 pounds and 171 trash tons for a disposal cost of \$11,794. NJAW applied to the BPU to take control of the sewer system but this month we responded to nine sewer calls. They collected scrap metal, inspected all fire extinguishers and salted in preparation for pending storms. We don't plow until four inches or more snow accumulates.

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

- The NJDOT Harding Ave project is under design and is expected to be done late summer or fall.
- Bell Road Discretionary Aid project is also planned for construction this summer.
- The NJDOT James Street project is also anticipated for construction this summer.
- We submitted applications for NJDOT 2019 funding and are still waiting to hear.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for January 2019, reporting total receipts of \$674,054.88 and \$4974.51 in lien redemptions. He also reported that Finance Department has been working on the 2019 Budget so we can efficiently spend taxpayer funds. We will be here again February 26 at 3pm for the caucus meeting and March 7 at 7pm for the commission meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Rich Welsh, 3 Baird Avenue, spoke about the lights out on Kings Highway. PSE&G said it was because of the wreaths on the poles that the lights did not come on. Commissioner Tovinsky responded that Public Works manager, Jim Beebe will notify PSE&G that the lights are still out.

George Gies, 35 Lincoln Avenue, spoke about Station Avenue. It is his opinion that it should be one way at all times. He would like it re-evaluated. The governing body responded that they will discuss it at caucus.

David Bailey, 270 James Street, said he thinks there should be stop signs at Glover and James and White and James. Again the governing body said they will discuss at caucus.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public portion was closed and the meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk