

**MARCH 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 Eric Riso, Engineer Erika Vardaxis and Clerk Terry Shannon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the December 27, 2018, caucus meeting and the February 7, 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 \$1,866,214.22 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.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

Mayor Wolk announced that these ordinances will be posted for 30 days and a public hearing on them will be held at the April 4 commission meeting. He asked Clerk Shannon to read the ordinances by title which she read as follows:

- Ord. 2019-01 Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Various Improvements in and for the Borough of Mount Ephraim; Appropriating the Sum of \$625,000 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 \$625,000 Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing
- Ord. 2019-02 Calendar Year 2019 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (NJSA 40A: 4-45.14)
- Ord. 2019-03 Amending Chapter 410, Vehicles and Traffic in the Borough Code (Station Avenue movement)

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

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:

- 16-19 Awarding a Contract to Beaverbrook for Towing Services
- 17-19 Authorizing Transfer of 2018 Appropriation Reserves
- 18-19 Authorizing Release of the Escrow Balance Posted by Lazgor, LLC
- 19-19 Appointing Luke Falkenberg as a Class II Special Officer to the Police Department
- 20-19 Authorizing Refund of Sewer Overpayment
- 21-19 Approving Renewal of Mercantile Licenses for 2019
- 22-19 Authorizing the Lease/Purchase of a Police Vehicle under NJ State Contract
- 23-19 Authorizing a 2019 Temporary Capital Budget

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 Police Department report from February reporting they had 562 total calls and assigned 646 case numbers. He read highlights of the offenses and reported they had 28 adult arrests and issued 18 out-of-town warrants. They also issued 255 motor vehicle summonses. He then read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department monthly report from February reporting they had three drills, 10 alarm systems, seven mutual aid calls, three building fires, two EMS assists, one MVA and 11 incidental calls for a total of 26 calls and 148 volunteer man hours. Commissioner Gilmore read a letter from the Mt. Ephraim school district commending the police and fire departments for their handling of an incident at the school in June of 2018. The school had to be evacuated and the boiler system inspected by the fire department. The police handled the evacuation and the fire department handled the situation with the boiler. The letter said it is wonderful to work with such professional departments and they greatly appreciate the support the school district receives from these departments. Commissioner Gilmore thanked Chief Conte and President Holmes and asked him to relay this to their department personnel. He also announced the passing of Jack Goglin, former fire department chief, and expressed condolences to his family.

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. They collected electronics recycling, removed graffiti at both playgrounds, repaired potholes, cleaned stormwater inlets, collected metal recycling. Fortunately they have not had to plow yet but they have been salting and maintaining our roads. We appreciate their hard work.

Engineer Erika Vardaxis from Federici and Akin reported on the following items:

- 2018 Local Aid project, James Street, will go out to bid this summer with construction this fall.
- Bell Road Discretionary Aid project is also planned to go out to bid in the next couple months with construction this summer.
- We are working with the water company to try to get the sewer mains replaced on these roads which could delay construction.
- We met with the County engineer about the drainage issues on Sartori and Rudderow and it appears they will help us with the drainage issues.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for February 2019, reporting total receipts of \$2,617,663.77 and \$12,322.32 in lien redemptions. We will be here again March 26 at 3pm for our workshop and April 4 at 7pm for the commission meeting. He added his condolences to the Goglin family and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Jane Metts from Green Avenue spoke about Green being used as a cut through. Speed and volume are unacceptable and we have a lot of truck traffic. Chief Conte said our traffic study apparatus is committed for the next two months but after that we will do a traffic study. She asked if a stop sign could be put at Green at Hartka. Chief Conte said the traffic study will reveal if a stop sign is warranted. Mayor Wolk asked Ms. Metts to give her phone number to Chief Conte after the meeting.

Kate Leif from Davis Avenue asked about the alley behind their homes as it is deteriorated and has a large pothole. Chief Conte confirmed it is not a public street, it is an alley. Commissioner Tovinsky said he will have Public Works check it out.

Mike Rossano from Green Avenue asked for an update on the situation with the convenience store. Chief Conte said it is still in the court process. Rossano then asked about a Little Free Library type structure but stocked with canned goods and similar foods. He asked if he could put one in and he will make sure it is stocked. Commissioner Gilmore said Gloucester City has them and has had some success with them. The Governing Body approved Mike to go ahead and try it. If there are problems, it can always be removed. He plans to put it next to the Little Free Library. Rossano then asked about the cameras on the front of borough hall. Chief Conte said they are for traffic control and monitoring. Rossano then asked about the chicken program and the three month trial for the chicken runs. Commissioner Tovinsky said our inspector had a hip replacement and he rehabbing right now but when he recovers, he will inspect and report.

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 7:24pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk