

**MAY 3, 2018, 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 and led all present in the “Pledge of Allegiance”. He then announced that this meeting has been advertised and posted in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”.

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 Joe Federici and Clerk Terry Shannon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the March 27, 2018, caucus meeting and the April 5, 2018, 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 \$1,058,968.35 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.

ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinance is on for second reading and public hearing this evening:

Ord. 02-18, Repealing and Replacing Article III, Entitled “Excavations” of Chapter 369, Entitled “Streets, Sidewalks and Driveway Aprons,” and Section 18 of Chapter 165 of the Code of the Borough of Mount Ephraim Entitled “Fees-Streets and Sidewalks”

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the second reading was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes. Mayor Wolk then opened the public hearing on this ordinance. He asked Solicitor Riso to explain the ordinance. Riso explained the purpose of this ordinance is to require utility companies to make continuous repairs when they do multiple street openings rather than all of the patches.

Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, Ord. 02-18 was adopted with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes. Ord. 02-18 was adopted.

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

Mayor Wolk read the following ordinances that are being introduced on first reading:

Ord. 03-18, Amending Chapter 410, Vehicles and Traffic, in the Borough Code
Ord. 04-18, Amending Chapter 165, Fees, in the Borough Code

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the first reading of these ordinances was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes. Mayor Wolk announced that these ordinances will be considered for adoption after proper notice and a public hearing to be held during the June 7 commission meeting.

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:

- 37-18 Cancellng Taxes Due to a Veterans Exemption
- 38-18 Appointing Two Special Law Enforcement Officers to the Police Department
- 39-18 Designating Professional Appointments under a Fair and Open Process
- 40-18 Authorizing Execution of a Release Agreement for 16 4th Avenue
- 41-18 Authorizing Advertisement for RFQ's for Planning Board Attorney
- 42-18 Changing the Date for the June Caucus Meeting to June 19, 2018, at 3pm
- 43-18 Certification of Compliance with the US EEOC "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions"
- 44-18 Authorizing the Purchase of Law Enforcement Records Management System and Entering into Shared Service Agreement for Group Purchasing and Operation of Law Enforcement Records Management System
- 45-18 Authorizing the Budget to be Read by Title at Time of Public Hearing

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Wolk announced that we will now have the public hearing on the 2018 Budget. He opened the public hearing and asked for public comment. He read a synopsis of the budget message explaining that this budget provides the needs for all operating costs for the borough but includes no tax increase.

Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public hearing was closed. Mayor Wolk thanked all the department heads and financial consultant Richard Schwab for his hard work on the budget.

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, Resolution 46-18, Resolution to Adopt the 2018 Municipal Budget, was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes. The budget was adopted.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Police Department report for April, 2018. The total calls were not available from the County yet but they assigned 307 case numbers. He read highlights of the offenses and reported they had 32 adult arrests and one juvenile. He read highlights of the arrest offenses. They served 18 out-of-town warrants. He

hopes one day to read a report with no arrests. He then read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department report for April. He read highlights of the calls and reported they had four drills for a total of 168 volunteer manhours. They also attended the Ales on the Rails event last weekend. Commissioner Gilmore then thanked the Celebrations for the Ales on the Rails event reporting it was a day of fun and relaxation for the whole town.

Commissioner Tovinsky reported Public Works collected 75,460 pounds of single stream recycling and had trash tonnage of 165 tons for a total cost of \$11,368 to Camden. He reported they responded to eight sewer calls, picked-up 9740 pounds of metal, arranged for repairs to a broken lateral, picked-up black mulch for borough facilities and the parks. The 8th grade kids helped spread the mulch at Shining Star Park. They had renovations done to the gazebo. One company did the rails and Advantage Roofing donated the roof. He thanked the Celebrations Committee for a great job on the Ales on the Rails event. Also the police and fire departments for their work that day as well as Public Works. They may do it a week earlier next year so it does not compete with Audubon Day. But our event was better anyhow.

Engineer Joe Federici from Federici and Akin reported they are waiting for final approval from NJDOT on the Northmont Avenue plans. That work will be done this summer. The Borough was awarded \$270,000 for improvements to James Street. We will be doing those plans this fall and the work will be done next spring/summer. We did a topographic survey of Shining Star Park and are working plans for drainage improvements to that area. Erica Vardaxis has been working on the sewer sale in case anyone has any questions.

Commissioner Tovinsky added that they met with representatives from South State and Erika regarding the conditions on Northmont Avenue where they recently did utility work. Erika is giving them a punch-list and they are going to redo the repairs.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for April, 2018, reporting total receipts of \$751,548.44 and \$37,848.29 in lien redemptions. He also thanked everyone including the police and fire departments, Public Works and all the volunteers. Our next event is May 28 for Memorial Day at 9am at the firehouse. Miss Mount Ephraim will be May 23 at MEPRI. He wished all the mothers a happy Mother's Day. We will be here again on Tuesday, May 29 and the commission meeting will be June 7 at 7pm.

The Clerk reported that Norcross Park will be closed for the next two weeks while we are getting security cameras installed and new playground equipment. Mayor Wolk added that this work was funded by a Camden County Open Space grant.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Theresa Ingram from 15 2nd Avenue spoke about the Mount Ephraim Dodge situation. She wanted to get a copy of the landscaping site plan that was originally submitted by them. Engineer Joe Federici said the original approval was done in 2005. We are using the original plan as a guide for the work they need to do. We met with them earlier this week and gave them a copy of the site plan. We also walked the site with the representative from Mt. Ephraim Dodge. They are getting cost estimates from landscaping, fencing and asphalt contractors and will then give us a schedule of when the work will be done. Carl Ingram added that this is prime time for planting so if they miss this window, they will have to wait until fall. The Ingram's asked if it is reasonable to expect the work to be done by fall. Federici said yes that is reasonable. Mayor Wolk said the wheels are in motion.

Mr. Ingram then asked about Resolution 40-18 regarding the release agreement. Commissioner Tovinsky explained the resident had to call a plumber for a blockage that was in our lateral. Because it was our fault, we reimbursed them for the cost of the plumber. He then asked about the new recycling regulations. They are no longer accepting grocery bags. Clerk Shannon explained the recycling facility cannot handle plastic grocery bags but you can return them to the supermarket for recycling.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Gilmore, second by Mayor Wolk, the public portion was closed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Shannon

Municipal Clerk