

**NOVEMBER 7, 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 7:04pm 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, Engineers Joe Federici and Doug Akin and Clerk Terry Shannon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the August 28, 2018, caucus meeting and the October 4, 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 \$814,990.16 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 ON FIRST READING

Mayor Wolk announced that we have ordinances for first reading tonight and he read them by title as follows:

- 15-18 Ordinance Granting Consent to New Jersey American Water Company, Inc., to Permit the Construction, Expansion and Maintenance of Sewer Collection and Treatment Facilities on Public and Private Property in the Borough of Mount Ephraim
- 16-18 Amending Ordinance 11-17 of the Borough Code Entitled Animals (backyard chicken pilot program)

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the first reading of Ordinance 15-18 was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes; Wolk-yes.

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the first reading of Ordinance 16-18 was approved with the following poll vote: Gilmore-yes; Tovinsky-yes, Wolk-no. Mayor Wolk said he will remain consistent and vote no to this program but they do have two yes votes so the ordinance should be approved. He added that these ordinances will be posted and the public hearing will be held at the December 7, 2018, 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:

- 99-18 Authorizing Agreement with Gloucester City for Provision of Brine
- 100-18 Authorizing Participation in the Camden County Contract for Sodium Chloride and Liquid Enhanced Sodium Chloride
- 101-18 Appropriating Items of Revenue and Expense for CDBG & Open Space Grants Received
- 102-18 Authorizing Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 103-18 Authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers
- 104-18 Authorizing Travel Advances for Attendance at the NJSLOM Convention
- 105-18 Authorizing Execution of a Shared Services Agreement with Bellmawr Relative to Hauling of Trash for Runnemede
- 106-18 Authorizing Submission and Execution of a Strategic Plan and Application for Municipal Drug Alliance Funding
- 107-18 Recognizing Atlantic Woodworking & Fabrication for their Work on the Gazebo at Shining Star Park

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.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gilmore read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Fire Department report for October 2018 including drills, public education and incident responses. They had 32 total incidents and these were all volunteer man hours. He then read highlights from the Mount Ephraim Police Department report for October reporting they had 699 calls and assigned 673 case numbers. He read highlights of the offenses and reported there were 31 adult arrests and they issued 413 motor vehicle summonses. He then reminded everyone that the annual fire truck parade will be December 8 at 7:00pm on Kings Highway. He added that he was glad that the residents approved the sale of the sewer system.

Commissioner Tovinsky reported that Public Works collected single stream recycling of 72,580 pounds and 178 tons of trash for a cost of \$12,246. They repaired potholes, responded to two sewer calls, collected 6980 pounds of metal, poured a concrete pad for the new shed at the senior center and fixed a sinkhole on James Street. He added that the sale of the sewer system was a long process involving help from Federici and Akin, solicitor Eric Riso, Clerk Terry Shannon, consultant Rich Schwab and the team from New Jersey American Water. We held six public meetings and only about twenty residents attended. He was very glad to see that the residents approved the sale at the polls and thanked everyone for their work on this project.

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

- We are preparing the plans for James Street, the NJDOT 2018 project and the work will be done in the spring of 2019.
- Regarding the Bell Road Discretionary Aid funding, those plans are just about complete and will be submitted to the agencies for their approval. That work will also be done in the spring of 2019.
- We are applying for additional Discretionary Aid to try to get enough funds to complete the drainage project.

•We received additional Discretionary Aid funds for Hartka Avenue and we will be reviewing the work to be done with the additional funds with the commissioners.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for October 2018, reporting total receipts of \$1,301,007.54 and \$33,868.18 in lien redemptions. We will be here again November 27 at 1pm for the budget and regular workshop and November 1 at 7pm for the commission meeting. We would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. We are thankful to our residents for approving the sale of the sewer system. Also thank you to everyone who supported and helped with this project.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Richard Welsh of Baird Avenue talked about youth riding bicycles in the middle of the street and disrespecting residents. Captain Siefert responded this seems to be a trend and asked Mr. Welsh to call immediately when you see this so we can respond. Mr. Welsh said he saw youth verbally harassing a resident who was walking her dog near Shining Star Park and is legally blind. He asked if he is allowed to take pictures and Captain Siefert and Solicitor Riso said he is permitted to do so in a public place. Commissioner Tovinsky added if they are violating the curfew ordinance, you should call the police. Katherine Constantino asked about curfew and Captain Siefert responded that it is 9pm on weekdays and 10pm on weekends. The parks close at dusk.

Mike Rossano of Green Avenue added if you take photos, you need to be careful about posting them on social media. Riso and Commissioner Gilmore responded that if you take photos, you can share them with the police but should not post on social media. Commissioner Tovinsky also thanked Mike for his support with the sale of the sewer system.

Theresa Ingram said she witnessed the police pulling a group of kids over on Second Avenue the other day so she knows there is action being taken. These kids play "chicken" with cars and it is very dangerous. She then thanked the governing body for their help with Mount Ephraim Dodge. The trees are in, the barbed wire was removed and there has been great progress. She is grateful for the help from the borough because it would not have happened without it. She would like to see privacy slats in the fence until the trees grow-in. Ms. Ingram added that the other day, a tractor trailer was delivering cars on their street because Mt. Ephraim Dodge had inventory parked where the deliveries are supposed to be made. She did not want to get the driver in trouble because he had no other option. Captain Siefert asked that she please call them when that happens so they can address it with Mt. Ephraim Dodge.

Kevin Watsey from New Jersey American Water said on behalf of NJAW they want to thank everyone who was involved with the sewer sale project. Everyone worked well together and the results show that. We will be filing with the BPU to get this approved and we will do everything to make sure you never regret this decision.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the public portion was closed. On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gilmore, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

Approved:

Terry Shannon

Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk