

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 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 7:05pm 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 MEETINGS

Mayor Wolk announced that the minutes from the August 27, 2019, caucus meeting and the September 5, 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 \$759,522.16 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 INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING

Mayor Wolk announced that the following ordinances will be introduced tonight on first reading and will then be posted and the public hearing will be held during the November 7 commission meeting. He asked the Clerk to read the ordinances which she did as follows:

Ord. 2019-10 Amending Chapter 241 of the Borough Code Entitled “Licensing” and Chapter 121 Entitled “Certificate of Continued Occupancy”

Ord. 2019-11 Amending Chapter 94 of the Borough Code Entitled “Animals” (backyard chicken program)

On a motion by Commissioner Tovinsky, second by Commissioner Gies, the first reading of the ordinances was approved with the following poll vote: Gies-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:

67-19 Approving a Person-to-Person Transfer of Giuseppe’s Liquor License

68-19 Appointing Logan Stenski as a Class II Special Police Officer

69-19 Setting the Hours for Trick or Treating and Halloween Curfew

70-19 Cancelling an Erroneous Sewer Balance

71-19 Accepting a 10-Year Contract Extension of the Comcast Franchise Agreement

72-19 Resolution Supporting Bills A-5450 and S-3827 Pertaining to the Verizon Tax Appeals

- 73-19 Approving Change Order No. 1-Final for the Northmont Avenue Project
- 74-19 Resolution Urging Voters to Support the Referendum on the November Ballot so that Veterans/Spouses Residing in Continuing Care Retirement Communities Will be Eligible for Property Tax Deductions

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 September, 2019—they answered 721 calls including 22 alarms, 46 EMS calls, five assaults, one overdose, one fraud, 13 harassment, one sex offender registration, 14 motor vehicle crashes, 39 suspicious persons or vehicles, three shopliftings, four thefts, 23 vacation checks, nine wellbeing, six 9-1-1 verifications and three missing people. Officers made 263 car stops and issued 280 motor vehicle summonses and served 29 warrants and had 37 adult arrests for the month. He read highlights of the arrest charges. All officers completed their blood borne pathogens training and AG required domestic violence training. For the Fire Department we had three EMS assists, two structure fires, nine alarm systems, four MVA's, two wires, one grass fire, two natural gas leaks, 18 mutual aid and four drills. On September 21 task force 45 was dispatched to the 400 block of West Kings Highway for a house fire. Deputy Chief Stagliano arrived on location and saw smoke coming from the dwelling. Engine 51 arrived and established a water supply. There was an occupant unaccounted for but the search proved to be negative. The fire was established. There were no reported injuries and we want to thank Audubon, Oaklyn, Bellmawr, Gloucester City, Barrington, Haddon Heights, Brooklawn and Westmont fire departments for their assistance. MEPRI EMS was also on location and the OEM. We also want to thank Runnemede and West Collingswood Heights for their coverage during the incident. This was the first fire I attended and going through this process showed how these departments work together and it was a very well run operation that day. It was amazing to see. Cheers to all for a job well done.

Commissioner Tovinsky: Construction office report for September, 2019—they issued 22 permits for a total of \$4760 and nine resale CO's for a total of \$1080. For Public Works—single stream recycling was 59,080 pounds and trash tonnage was 148 tons for a cost of \$11,577. We responded to zero sewer calls. They collected 8300 pounds of metal for \$368.75 in revenue, had new carpets installed in the police department and a heat pump in the chief's office. They hung the fall banners, painted all the speed humps, painted two spots on Sartori for 25 MPH speed and are having a tree cut down on 8th Avenue as soon as PSE&G secures the power lines.

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

- The plans for James Street have been submitted to DOT and we are waiting for their approval so we can prepare to go out to bid. For the Bell Road drainage project, we had to incorporate some comments from the County and made the changes they requested and are waiting for approval from DOT.

Mayor Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for September, 2019, reporting total receipts of \$196,307.56 and \$26,763.58 in lien redemptions. This report will be received and spread on the minutes. Halloween hours are 3pm-8pm so please be cautious that night. The Heroes Run Saturday the 12th at 9am and the Color Run is this Saturday at 8:30. Trunk or Treat is on the 26th at 5pm. The newsletter went out and has information on leaf collection and the shredding event. We also have notary services available at the borough. Hold on to the newsletter as it has important information. We will be here again on the 29th for our workshop and

the borough meeting will be on November 7. Kudos to everyone involved in the fire on Kings Highway and Oak. It is amazing to watch these guys work.

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 7:20pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk