

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022, MOUNT EPHRAIM COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING HELD IN BOROUGH HALL MEETING ROOM**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER/OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT**

Mayor Tovinsky called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with the "Pledge of Allegiance". He announced that this meeting was posted in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" and proper notice of this meeting was made.

**ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll with Commissioner Gies, Commissioner Wolk and Mayor Tovinsky present. Also in attendance for the Borough were Clerk Shannon, Solicitor Justin Strausser and Engineer Scott Smith from KEI Engineers.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Proclamations were presented to MEFD Captain Joey Herrmann and Firefighters Jay Green, Nick DiPaolo, Jim Herrmann and Junior Firefighters Aiden Scullan (not present) and Robert Medlar Jr., for their actions in saving the life of a baby that was brought to the firehouse in distress and not breathing. Mayor Tovinsky read the proclamation and the MEFD Deputy Chief Lafferty also presented a Unit Citation to the firefighters. The family of the infant was present and joined all the firefighters for photos. Captain Herrmann held the baby during the taking of the photos.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 22, 2022, Caucus meeting, and March 3, 2022, Commission meeting minutes were submitted for review and approval. On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the minutes were approved with all in favor.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

Mayor Tovinsky announced that vouchers in the amount of \$1,040,060.45 were submitted for approval. On a motion by Commissioner Gies second by Commissioner Wolk, the vouchers as submitted were approved with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes.

**ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION ON FIRST READING**

Clerk Shannon read the following ordinances by title:

- Ord. 2022-02 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank (NJSA 40A:4-45.14) for Calendar Year 2022
- Ord. 2022-03 Approving an Easement Relative to the Property Designated as Block 117, Lot 1.01, in the Borough of Mount Ephraim, and Authorizing Execution of all Documents Necessary to Implement Said Easement

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the ordinances were approved on first reading with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. Mayor Tovinsky announced that these ordinances will be considered for adoption following proper notice and a public hearing to be held during the May 5 commission meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL BY CONSENT AGENDA**

The Clerk read the following Resolutions by title for approval by Consent Agenda:

- 22-42 Appointing a New LSRP for the Tank Removal Project
- 22-43 Appointing New Members to the Mount Ephraim Fire Department
- 22-44 Refund of a CO Inspection Fee Received

- 22-45 Authorizing Advertisement for RFQ's Under a Fair and Open Process for Selection of Professionals
- 22-46 Requesting Extension of Time from NJDOT for Harding Avenue LAIF Funding
- 22-47 Authorizing Refund of Tax Overpayments Resulting from NJ Homestead Rebates
- 22-48 Supporting the Camden County American Revolution Trail Signage & Mobile App Project
- 22-49 Certification of Compliance with the US EEOC "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"
- 22-50 Introduction of the 2022 Municipal Budget

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

**REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Gies read highlights from the February court report stating that funds turned over to the Borough were \$7,069.86. He then read the March police report stating they responded to 726 calls for service and he read highlights of the calls. They stopped 163 vehicles and issued 134 motor vehicle summonses and served 24 warrants. They had 18 adult arrests and he read highlights of the charges. He then read highlights from the fire department report for March reporting they had four structure fires, one PD assist, five MVA's, 18 mutual aid, two cover assignments, one Lansar, one brush, 15 alarm systems and they had 123 volunteer duty crew hours and 38 shifts and they had three drills. They are having their hoagie sale this Saturday. You can also pickup hoagies at Little League opening day this Saturday at 9am.

Commissioner Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for March 2022, reporting total receipts of \$239,727.13. We also had five lien redemptions for a total of \$8,265.48. We introduced the budget this evening and will have the public hearing at the May 5 meeting. He wished everyone a Happy Easter and hopes to see everyone at Little League opening day.

Engineer Scott Smith reported on the following:

Thank you for adopting the resolution for DOT regarding the Harding Avenue funding. Also, we will be volunteering our services to prepare the easement language for the fire department memorial. We submitted to NJDOT for final reimbursement for restoration of Northmont Avenue.

Mayor Tovinsky read highlights from the Construction Office report for March reporting they issued 14 permits for a total of \$3,741.00; had zero vacant property registrations; and issued ten resale CO's for a total of \$1,200.00. Public Works had a manhole breakdown on Second Avenue that will be prepared by Pioneer Pipe. This morning a tree came down on Hill Street but it was a County tree. They were trying to get power restored and the area cleared today. Ales on the Rails is April 30 on Station Avenue. It will be a great day so everyone please try to make it.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mayor Tovinsky opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name for the record. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the public portion was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon  
Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk