

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022, MOUNT EPHRAIM COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
IN-PERSON MEETING HELD 7:00PM AT BOROUGH HALL**

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

Mayor Tovinsky called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and the "Open Public Meetings Act" statement. He also asked for a moment of silence in honor of all the people who died in the fire in Philadelphia yesterday. He welcomed all to the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll with Commissioner Gies, Commissioner Wolk and Mayor Tovinsky present. Also present for the Borough were Solicitor Justin Strausser and Engineer Greg Fusco, Jr., from KEI Engineers.

**RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL:**

The Clerk read Resolution 21-01, Promoting Kevin Sullivan to the Position of Sergeant, by title. On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the resolution was approved with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. Mayor Tovinsky administered the Oath of Office to Sgt. Sullivan with his family and at his side.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

November 23, 2021, Caucus meeting, and December 2, 2021, 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 \$825,413.89 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.

**RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL BY CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 22-02 Designating Departments of the Borough of Mount Ephraim
- 22-03 Designating Department Directors
- 22-04 Designating Officers and Employees of the Borough of Mount Ephraim
- 22-05 Designating Appointments to Borough Positions
- 22-06 Designating the Official Depository
- 22-07 Designating Official Newspapers
- 22-08 Appointing the Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner to the SNJREBF Fund
- 22-09 Appointing the Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner to the JIF Fund
- 22-10 Authorizing Signing of an Agreement for 2022 with Community Animal Care Services
- 22-11 Authorizing Signing of an Agreement for 2022 with Homeward Bound Animal Shelter
- 22-12 Setting the Interest Rate for Delinquent Taxes
- 22-13 Cancelling Taxes Due on Borough-Owned Properties
- 22-14 Cancelling Taxes for a Totally Disabled Veteran
- 22-15 Authorizing Execution of a Lease Agreement with Ford for a New Police Vehicle
- 22-16 Approving Change Order No. 3 for the Refurbishing of a 2006 E-One Cyclone II Custom Rescue Pumper through the Sourcewell Cooperative
- 22-17 Revising the Schedule of Meeting Dates for 2022
- 22-18 Authorizing the Shared Service Agreement with Barrington for Clerk Services

- 22-19 Adopting the Camden County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 22-20 Authorizing a Refund of a Hall Rental Payment
- 22-21 Authorizing Participation in the Camden County Contract for Trash Disposal
- 22-22 Authorizing Agreement with TTI for Services to Complete the Tank Removal Project
- 22-23 Cancelling Taxes for a Totally Disabled Veteran
- 22-24 Authorizing a Closed Session to Discuss an Attorney/Client Privileged Matter
- 22-25 Authorizing Tax Assessor to File, Stipulate and Settle Both Regular and Added/Omitted Tax Appeals, and Roll Back Tax Complaints for 2022

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 approved.

### **REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Gies read highlights from the Court report for November reporting they had 39 criminal charges filed; 42 criminal cases resolved; 69 traffic charges filed; and 50 traffic cases resolved. The money turned over to the Borough was \$4,000.83. He then read highlights from the Fire Department report for December reporting they had had nine structure fires, five MVA's, 14 good intent calls, 24 mutual aid, three cover assignments, 13 alarm systems. They total volunteer hours of 123 and 38 duty crew shifts. On Christmas Eve they did a heck of a job covering the station while Brooklawn had a working fire. They had to respond to a fire in Bellmawr. Nice job done by all. Commissioner Gies then read highlights from the Police Department report for December. They had 548 calls for service including 21 alarms, 52 ambulance call responses, seven assaults, one overdose, two fraud cases, 25 harassments, 15 motor vehicle crashes, 30 suspicious people or vehicles, seven shopliftings, seven thefts, 16 vacation and business checks, 14 check on well beings and three 9-1-1 verifications. They made 71 car stops and issued 59 motor vehicle summonses and served 10 warrants. They had 33 adult arrests and he read highlights of the arrests. Th at concluded his report.

Commissioner Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for December 2021, reporting total receipts of \$192,311.44. We had five lien redemptions totaling \$90,219.78. That concluded his report.

Engineer Greg Fusco, Jr. reported on the following:

He thanked the governing body for reappointing their office. They contacted DOT and they will allow us to combine the funding for the first phase of Lake Street and the second phase into one project. We are currently working on the plans and specifications and will bid the work as one project. We hope to submit to DOT in February for their review and approval. We are also working on the plans for drainage improvements to Harding and Winthrop. Also, they attended the breakfast meeting given by Congressman Norcross regarding the infrastructure bills. We will be getting more information on what projects qualify for funding and how these funds will be allocated to local municipalities.

Mayor Tovinsky added that Greg Fusco attended the County meeting via Teams this morning regarding the Kings Highway project. NJAW will have to replace their mains while Kings Highway is open. Haddon Heights and Audubon will have to spend their own money to replace their utilities. Fortunately, we sold our utilities to NJAW so we don't have to do any of that work ourselves.

Mayor Tovinsky reported that the Public Works collected 96,200 pounds of single stream recycling, 201 tons of trash at a cost of \$16,704 for disposal, and 7460 pounds of metal for \$746 in revenue. Leaf season has ended and we are working on the plow trucks and salt spreaders. Public Works this year has collected 405 tons of recycling. Recycling is going from \$5.00 per ton to \$85-90 per ton.

They collected 2,182 tons of trash for a total cost of \$180,968.00 for the year. He then read highlights from the Construction Office report for December. They issued 21 permits for revenue of \$3,159.00 and issued seven CO's for \$840.00. He reported that for the year they issued 227 permits, nine vacant property registrations and 111 resale CO's. He heard that the Fire parade was great.

**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 7:21pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon  
Terry Shannon, Municipal Clerk