

**THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022, MOUNT EPHRAIM COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**

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

Mayor Tovinsky called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00pm with the “Pledge of Allegiance”. The Clerk read the “Open Public Meetings Act” statement as it relates to virtual meetings and the public health emergency. Mayor Tovinsky welcomed all to the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll with Commissioner Gies, Commissioner Wolk and Mayor Tovinsky present. Also on the Zoom meeting for the Borough were Clerk Shannon, Solicitor Justin Strausser and Engineer Greg Fusco, Jr., from KEI Engineers. Also participating were various department heads.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

January 25, 2022, Caucus meeting, and February 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 \$981,247.51 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.

**ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION**

Clerk Shannon read the following ordinance by title:

Ord. 2022-01 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Phase II of the Reconstruction of Lake Street in and for the Borough of Mount Ephraim, County of Camden, NJ; Appropriating the Sum of \$310,000 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Mount Ephraim, County of Camden, NJ, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to \$76,000, Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing

Mayor Tovinsky opened the public hearing on this bond ordinance. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, Ordinance 2022-01 was adopted with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. The bond ordinance was adopted.

**RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL BY CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 22-37 Authorizing Submission of a Camden County Open Space Grant Application for Security Improvements at Recreation Complexes
- 22-38 Authorizing a Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 22-39 Authorizing a Refund of Overpayment of Taxes
- 22-40 Authorizing an Agreement with Rite Air Mechanical Services for Maintenance of the HVAC System at the Firehouse
- 22-41 Authorizing Approval of Mercantile Licenses 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 unanimously approved.

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

Commissioner Gies announced that yesterday was the borough's birthday and we are 95 years old! He also announced that that resident Scotty Lynch is going for the state title in wrestling. He then read highlights from the Mt. Ephraim Fire Department monthly report for February reporting they had nine dwelling fires, three MVA's, two EMS assists, one hazardous condition, 21 mutual aid, 13 alarm systems, one Lansar, and they had three drills. He then read highlights from the February report from the Police Department reporting they 581 calls including 22 alarms, 41 ambulance responses, one assault, two overdoses, ten harassments, two sex offender registrations, 16 MV crashes, 35 suspicious people or vehicles, eleven shoplifting, 19 thefts, 14 vacation checks, 25 check on well beings and they stopped 123 motor vehicles and issued 82 summonses. They served 20 warrants and had 16 adult arrests and he read highlights of the arrests. For the court report for January, 25 criminal charges filed were 25, cases resolved were 29, traffic charges filed were 97 and resolved were 46 and the funds turned over to the borough were \$5,254.61 and we were the highest of all the four towns.

Commissioner Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector's report for February 2022, reporting total receipts of \$2,703,010.66. We also had four lien redemptions for a total of \$52,587.68. He, Paul and Rob Inverso are meeting on Tuesday to finalize the budget so we should have the numbers for the board at the March caucus meeting. We plan to introduce in April.

Engineer Greg Fusco, Jr. reported on the following:

We sent the Lake Street plans to NJDOT for their review and approval.

We continue to work on the drainage and Winthrop and Lowell Avenues.

Camden County Open Space grants are due at the end of the month so we need to determine a project. Also, my wife and I are expecting our first child next month so I don't know if I will be at next month's meeting. Everyone congratulated him.

Mayor Tovinsky read highlights from the Construction Office report for February reporting they issued 26 permits for a total of \$4,490.00; had zero vacant property registrations; and issued nine resale CO's for a total of \$1,080.00. Public Works collected 57,020 pounds of single stream recycling, 145.58 tons of trash at a cost of \$12,588.29 for disposal, and 4,720 pounds of metal for \$476.20 in revenue. Our new Monster leafer was delivered on February 10, fire extinguishers were all inspected, replaced outside lights, had a plumbing leak repaired and at the auction in Bellmawr, we sold a police car, a GMC Suburban and a recycling trailer for a total of \$8,300.00. We had a busy month.

### **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