

**THURSDAY JUNE 2, 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 7:07pm 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 Greg Norman and Engineer Greg Fusco from KEI Engineers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 26, 2022, Caucus meeting, and May 5, 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 \$1,533,054.37 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:

- 2022-04 Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Real Property as Part of the Sacred Heart Church Redevelopment Project for the Borough of Mount Ephraim; Appropriating the Sum of \$50,000 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Mount Ephraim in the Aggregate principal Amount of up to \$50,000; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing

- 2022-05 Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Various Capital Equipment and Completion of Various Capital Improvements in and for the Borough of Mount Ephraim; Appropriating the Sum of \$939,000 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Mount Ephraim in the Aggregate principal Amount of up to \$892,050; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing

- 2022-06 Establishing the 2022 Salaries of Non-union Employees and Officials of the Borough of Mount Ephraim

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the first reading of these ordinances was approved 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 July 7 commission meeting.

RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL BY CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 22-57 Awarding a Contract for Towing and Storage Services
- 22-58 Approving Renewal of Liquor Licenses for the 2022-23 License Term
- 22-59 Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application for Municipal Aid from the NJDOT for Local Aid Reconstruction of Adams Avenue
- 22-60 Appointing Paul Thomas as Certified Finance Officer for the Borough of Mount Ephraim
- 22-61 Urging the Swift Passage of Bill S-330 which Restores Energy Tax Receipts
- 22-62 Authorizing Liens Against Certain Properties for Costs Incurred in Accordance with the Property Maintenance Code
- 22-63 Authorizing a Refund of Overpayment of Taxes

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.

MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING/LAND USE BOARD

Clerk Shannon read the following names to confirm these individuals have been appointed to the Land Use Board.

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| Kimberly Beebe, Class 2, one-year term | Steven Eggert, Class 4, four-year term |
| Gary Prinski, Class 4, four-year term | Thomas Maxwell, Class 4, four-year term |
| Michael Marrone, Alt., two-year term | Jason Kerns, Alt., two-year term |

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gies read highlights from the May report from the Fire Department stating they had 31 total calls and three drills. He then read highlights from the Court report for April reporting they turned over \$5,624.78 to the borough. Commissioner Gies then read highlights from the May Police Department report. They had 824 calls for service, and he read highlights of the calls. The Police made 189 car stops and issued 134 summonses and they served 23 out-of-town warrants. They had 35 adult arrests for the month, and he read highlights of the charges. He added it was a great Memorial Day celebration and he doesn’t know who planned for the jets to fly over at the right time, but it was remarkable.

Commissioner Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector’s report for May 2022, reporting total receipts of \$2,158,424.18. We also had five lien redemptions for a total of \$123,765.24. He added that he echoes George’s comments about Memorial Day. It was really amazing when the jets flew over.

Engineer Greg Fusco reported on the following:

We are receiving bids for the Lake Avenue project, Phase 1 and 2 on June 15.

We will be submitting the application for FY2023 NJDOT Municipal Aid for Adams Avenue.

The Open Space committee met today with Commissioner Gies to review the application the town submitted for security cameras. They also visited the playgrounds.

Mayor Tovinsky read highlights from the Construction Office department for May. They issued 17 permits totalling \$3012, they had zero vacants and issued seven resale CO’s for \$840. For Public Works, single stream recycling was 58,880 pounds and they collected 175 tons of trash for a cost of \$15,178.00. We had a Right to Know chemical inventory done at all borough facilities and the blower motor was replaced in the AC for borough hall. They also cleaned up all locations for Memorial Day.

We had a problem where people were shooting off fireworks on our new basketball court and that will have to be repaired. Hopefully if we get the grant for new security cameras, we will be able to go after people who do this damage. It is great that the parks are being used but people keep ruining stuff. We need to make an example of somebody.

Chief Conte announced that the July 4 parade will be at noon as always. Commissioner Wolk congratulated Paul on his appointment as CFO.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Tovinsky opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name for the record. Present was Stan Witkowski who asked about the resurfacing of Kings Highway. Mayor Tovinsky responded he went to a meeting with the County and the three towns and they are getting the utility companies together. Their engineers are working on the timetable for the project and we will be going to another meeting. They are doing from Market Street to Hopkins Avenue in Haddonfield. Witkowski then asked about the fence at the former gas station location. He said he spoke to Tara and she has contacted the owner but they have not responded. Is there any legal action that can be taken? Justin Strausser stated that zoning only governs if it is an approved use—this would fall under property maintenance. Mayor Tovinsky said he will have Steve Beach take a look at it. Witkowski then asked for an update on Sacred Heart Church and the Mayor responded that we are still in court over the Carollo's property. The next court date is August 14.

Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the public hearing was closed.

On a motion by Commissioners Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk