

**THURSDAY, MAY 5, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 29, 2022, Caucus meeting, and April 7, 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 \$1,039,483.24 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 PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

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

Mayor Tovinsky opened the public hearing on these ordinances. 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, the ordinance 2022-02 was adopted with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes.

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the ordinance 2022-03 was adopted 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:

- 22-51 Authorizing the 2022 Budget to be Read by Title at Public Hearing
- 22-52 Designating Professional Appointments
- 22-53 Approving Change Order No. 2-FINAL, James Street Project
- 22-54 Resolution Appointing George Gies as the Class III Member to the Land Use Board
- 22-55 Authorizing Submission of an Application for DMHAS Grant Funding

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.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2022 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mayor Tovinsky opened the public hearing on the budget and asked that you state your name for the record. Seeing no public comment, on a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the public hearing on the budget was closed.

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, the 2022 municipal budget was adopted with the following poll vote: Gies-yes; Wolk-yes; Tovinsky-yes. The budget was adopted. Mayor Tovinsky stated it was a “heck of a job” by Paul Thomas and Commissioner Wolk—this was a tough year.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gies read highlights from the April report from the Fire Department stating they had 48 calls. He then read highlights from the Court report for March reporting they turned over \$5,057.86 to the borough. Commissioner Gies then read highlights from the April Police Department report. They had 668 calls for service, and he read highlights of the calls. The Police did 148 car stops and issued 109 summonses and they served 23 out-of-town warrants. They had 30 arrests for the month and he head a highlights of the charges.

Commissioner Wolk read the details from the Tax Collector’s report for April 2022, reporting total receipts of \$925,374.45. We also had four lien redemptions for a total of \$34,060.61.

Engineer Scott Smith reported on the following:

We are working with Jim Beebe to select a street for submission to NJDOT for Municipal Aid; we submitted a formal request for an extension for the NJDOT LAIF funds for Harding Avenue; restoration of Kings Highway by Camden County—the County will be submitting the agreements for execution by the Mayors of each town. Mayor Tovinsky added we have been attending these meetings and there is one next week. They are repaving Kings Highway from Market Street to where St. Rose is located in Haddon Heights. This will not cost us a penny as the utilities will have to pay for their services to be upgraded while the County has the road opened.

Mayor Tovinsky read highlights from the Public Works department for April. They collected 55,880 pounds of single stream recycling and 195 tons of trash for a disposal cost of \$16,941.00. They collected 7700 pounds of metal for revenue of \$1,023.75. They put up new speed limit signs, prepared the ballfields for opening day, handled the annual Fire Marshal inspections and completed and submitted the DEP stormwater reports. The Construction Office issued 17 permits for \$3,010.00, and had 10 CO’s for \$1200.00. Ales on the Rails had a great turnout and every department did a great job.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Tovinsky opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name for the record. Rich Holmes from Grant Avenue and president of the Fire Department thanked the Governing Body for the easement for the memorial--this memorial will have the names of all deceased members of both the former United Fire Company and our current department. Chief Conte stated that the Memorial Day services will begin at 9am at the firehouse. Seeing no further public comment, on a motion by Commissioners Gies and Wolk, the public portion was closed.

On a motion by Commissioners Gies and, the meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Approved: Terry Shannon
Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk