THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023, 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 Greg Fusco from KEI Engineers.

PROCLAMATION

A proclamation was presented to Mount Ephraim resident Scotty Lynch, a high school student who was being recognized for his accomplishments in Audubon High School football and wrestling.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Tovinsky announced that the April 25, 2023, Caucus and May 4, 2023, 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 present in favor.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Mayor Tovinsky announced that vouchers in the amount of $850,913.62 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

The Clerk read the following ordinances by title:

Ord. 2023-09 Ordinance Amending and Supplementing the Borough Code at Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 86 "Cannabis", to Establish Section 86-3, to Impose Application and Annual Licensing Fees on Class V Retail Cannabis Applicants/License Holders

Ord. 2023-10 Ordinance to Repeal Chapter 459, Entitled Flood Damage Prevention; to Adopt a New Chapter 459, Flood Damage Prevention; to Adopt Flood Hazard Maps; to Designate a Floodplain Administrator; and Providing for Severability and an Effective Date

Ord. 2023-11 Bond Ordinance Authorizing Supplemental Funding for the Environmental Remediation of Cleveland Avenue; Appropriating the Sum of $100,000 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 $95,000, Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing

Ord. 2023-12 Establishing the 2023 Salaries of Non-union Employees and Officials of the Borough of Mount Ephraim

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

On a motion by Commissioner Gies, second by Commissioner Wolk, Ordinances 2023-09, 2023-10, 2023-11 and 2023-12 were 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:

23-61 Authorizing Refund of a Fee Paid for a Construction Permit
23-62 Authorizing Change Order No. 2, Drainage Improvements at Intersection of Harding, Winthrop and Lowell Avenues
23-63 Authorizing Change Order No. 2, Reconstruction of Lake Street
23-64 Authorizing Approval of Mercantile Licenses for 2023
23-65 Authorizing a Closed Session to Discuss Attorney/Client Privileged, Contractual or Personnel Related Legal Matters

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.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE LAND USE BOARD

The Clerk read the following appointments by the Mayor into the record:

Kimberly Beebe, Class II, one-year term; George Gies, Class II, one-year term;
Anthony Stagliano, Class IV, four-year term; Rocco Vespe, Alternate No. 2, two-year term;
Douglas Morgan, Alternate No. 3, two-year term; John Saban, Alternate No. 4, one-year term

REPORTS AND COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gies read the police report for June 2023 reporting they had 593 calls for service and he read highlights of the calls. He reported they had 38 adult arrests and he read highlights of the charges. He then read the fire report for June reporting they had total calls of 39 and he read highlights of the calls. All emergency departments were busy Tuesday and Wednesday due to the storms. Also the July 4 parade was great. Commissioner Gies then read highlights of the court report for May 2023 reporting they turned over $4,468.92 to the borough.

Commissioner Wolk read the Tax Collector's report for June reporting total collections for June were $183,896.87 and there were four lien redemptions totaling $66,441.59. That concluded his report.

Engineer Greg Fusco reported that the borough was notified they will receive $600,000 in NJDOT Discretionary aid to finish the drainage on Bell Road. We are scheduling the pre-construction meeting for Harding and Linwood. Hopefully the contractor will be able to get started soon.

Mayor Tovinsky read highlights from the Construction Office report for June and they issued 30 permits for a total of $19,977, had two vacant property registrations for $1000 and had eight CO inspections for a total of $960. For Public Works, he reported single stream recycling was 71,520 pounds collected and trash tonnage was 184 tons for a cost of $16,592. Public Works collected metal recycling, boarded up windows at Sacred Heart and maintained the brush on Haddon next to the Budget Inn. Great job by everyone on the parade and the floods that night.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Tovinsky opened the meeting to the public and asked that residents state their name for the record.

Present was Mike Rossano who asked if Lidl changed hands yet. The Clerk responded we signed the contract with the developer and hope to make settlement soon. Mayor Tovinsky added we are looking forward to that so we don't have to fix the windows anymore.

Seeing no further 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 meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:18pm.

Approved: *Terry Shannon*
Terry Shannon, Borough Clerk