

**Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting
Minutes**

MAY 12, 2022

7:00 P.M.

Mayor John Kehm calls the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting to order and leads the Pledge of Allegiance. Time: 7:00 p.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Township Clerk Kelly Lettera read the Open Public Meeting Statement: *"This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law. Notice of this meeting of May 12, 2022 was duly advertised, posted in the Municipal Complex, and has remained posted as required under the aforesaid statute. The Municipal Clerk is directed to include a record of this statement in the minutes of this meeting."*

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm
Absent: Mr. Laney

PRESENTATION

Deputy Mayor Blaise Scibetta read the proclamation for National Safe Boating Week

Committeeman Daniel Maxwell read the proclamation for Older Americans Month

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 14, 2022
- April 14, 2022 Executive Session

Motion to Approve: Scibetta Second: Maxwell All in Favor
Abstain: Gormley

ORDINANCE 2022-03

[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Execution of a Lease Agreement with The Atlantic City Electric Company for Facilitating Electrical Transmission Services in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-15 [*A Lease agreement between LEHT and Atlantic City Electric for a substation to stage equipment at the DPW yard*]

Motion to Open to Public: Gormley Second: Scibetta All in Favor

No comment from the public.

Motion to Close to Public: Maxwell Second: Gormley All in Favor

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Motion to Adopt: Scibetta

Second: Maxwell

Roll Call:

All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

ORDINANCE 2022-04

[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Vacating All Rights, Title and Interest to an Existing Easement Upon Block 325.113, Lot 1 Also Known as 17 Walkill Road and Accepting a New 10.00' Wide Storm Drainage Easement Across Said Property

Motion to Open to Public: Maxwell

Second: Gormley

All in Favor

No comment from the public.

Motion to Close to Public: Maxwell

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

Motion to Adopt: Gormley

Second: Maxwell

Roll Call:

All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

ORDINANCE 2022-05

[FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, authorizing the increase of final appropriations to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits for CY 2022 and to establish a cap bank pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

Motion to Introduce: Scibetta

Second: Gormley

Roll Call:

All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

ORDINANCE 2022-06

[FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 212, Land Development, of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor so As To Create Chapter 215, Land Use and Development

Motion to Introduce: Maxwell

Second: Scibetta

Roll Call:

All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

CONSENT AGENDA

A Consent Agenda includes items of business which are not controversial and do not require individual discussion. The Consent Agenda is moved, seconded, and voted upon as one item by the Governing Body.

The Municipal Clerk read by title all the Resolutions on the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION 2022-126

Authorizing the Township Administrator to Advertise and Hire a Mechanic and Two Laborer 1 Employees for the Department of Public Works

RESOLUTION 2022-127

Authorizing the Township Administrator to Advertise and Hire a Clerk 1 in the Police Records Department

RESOLUTION 2022-128

Authorizing the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 1, 2022 – March 14, 2023

[The joint Municipal Alliance Committee consists of Eagleswood, Little Egg Harbor and Tuckerton and was established to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse.]

RESOLUTION 2022-129

Authorizing Various Tax Refunds

RESOLUTION 2022-130

Authorizing the Adoption of an Emergency Temporary Budget for the year 2022

[N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides that, in addition to temporary appropriations necessary for the period prior to the adoption of the budget and regular appropriations, the governing body may make emergency temporary appropriations for any purposes for which appropriations may lawfully be made for the period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for the current fiscal year.]

RESOLUTION 2022-131

Authorizing the Execution of a Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

RESOLUTION 2022-132

Introduction of the 2022 Municipal Budget *[The budget has total general appropriations of \$26,268,729.61. The amount to be raised by taxation to support the budget will be \$19,912,620.09]*

CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to Open to Public: Scibetta

Second: Gormley

All in Favor

Mr. Mooney of Windstar Drive questioned Resolution 2022-126 & Resolution 2022-127 and if the positions are new or vacancies from existing positions.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated the Resolutions are to fill existing positions of employees who have left.

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Motion to Close to Public: Maxwell Second: Gormley All in Favor

Motion to Approve: Scibetta Second: Gormley

Roll Call: All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

BILL RESOLUTION 2022-133

A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$7,146,545.99

Motion to Approve: Gormley Second: Maxwell

Roll Call: All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

- Raffle Application No. 2022-17 for St. Theresa Church, 450 Radio Road, Off Premise 50/50 Raffle on various dates from August 2, 2022 through July 11, 2023
- Raffle Application No. 2022-18 for Zonta Club of Southern Ocean County, 319 West Calabreeze Way, On-Premise 50/50 Raffle on June 11, 2022 and September 10, 2022
- Raffle Application No. 2022-19 for Pinelands Theater Arts Foundation, 590 Nugentown Road, On-Premise 50/50 Raffle on May 19, 2022
- Bingo Application No. 2022-03 for American Legion Post 493 Mystic Island, 420 Radio Road, Bingo for various dates from July 5, 2022 through December 27, 2022

Motion to Approve: Gormley Second: Maxwell All in Favor

PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to Open to Public: Scibetta Second: Maxwell All in Favor

Mr. Art Mooney of Windstar Drive had a list of various items from prior meetings that he was looking for a status on including: the sale of Sea Oaks, their liquor license and the preapproved condominiums, rumor of Shooters closing, an email he submitted regarding Marijuana and the Township Police Officers, information on the Master Plan Committee members, American Rescue Fund ideas, bus shelters upkeep and maintenance, budget highlights and the condition of Leitz Blvd. roadway.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated Sea Oaks has submitted an application for renewal but the license transfer has not been submitted yet.

Township Attorney Melanie Appleby stated once the transfer application is submitted, the Committee will approve a Resolution for the transfer of the license to the new owners. She stated she believes all permits have expired and the new owners would have to get permission from the Planning Board for approvals on the condominiums.

Township Engineer Jason Worth provided an overview of the condominiums previous approval and what will be required since the approval extensions are now expired.

Mayor Kehm stated he has not heard the rumor of Shooters closing.

Mayor Kehm stated he, Deputy Mayor Scibetta and Chief Hawkins discussed regulations on Township Police Officers and Marijuana and what they are looking to implement.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated the Master Plan is set by the Committee and that the plan and changes are done by the Committee and through the Township Planner. He stated there will be no Committee created for the Master Plan Reexamination.

Mayor Kehm stated the Township has a list of ideas they are deciding on for the American Rescue Plan funds including two Resolutions that were approved at the previous meeting for Drone Inspections and Township bulkheads.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated the bus shelters are on the list to be discussed for the American Rescue Plan and the Township will maintain the bus shelters.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines gave a brief overall on the highlights of the 2022 Municipal Budget and he stated the public hearing and adoption will be at the June meeting.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he spoke with the Director of Public Works and the pot holes will be fixed on Leitz Blvd.

Mr. Art Mooney ended by thanking Katie Baker, Mr. Ken Maxwell and Committeeman Daniel Maxwell for the success of the Senior Expo.

Beverly Weed-Schertzer requested a status on the Mystic Island Phase 2 dredging project, provided information to Committeeman Gormley on Brick dredging project and questioned the Township bulkhead repairs.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated a letter regarding the status of Mystic Island Phase 2 dredging was put on the Township website as well as on Facebook. He further stated at this time the Phase 2 dredging will be on hold.

Mayor Kehm stated no letter will be sent out to the residents and the follow-up from the poll is posted for residents on the website, Facebook and in the newspaper and at this time the dredging will not be going any further.

Committeeman Ray Gormley stated Tuckerton Borough is currently going out to bid for dredging and once those bids come back, the Township will have an idea of what the current pricing is and go from there.

Township Engineer Jason Worth provided the process and status of the bulkhead repairs.

The resident of 226 Center Street (No name given) stated she has concern on the safety of children due to 18 wheeler trucks that are barreling down Center Street.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated Center Street is a County roadway and at this point the Township's hands are tied and it is up to the County to complete what they have proposed to the state for the roadway. He also stated he believes the County is waiting on Department of Transportation to finish the process.

Amanda Mallard of Center Street expressed how dangerous Center Street is around the curve in the roadway. She asked if anyone has thought of making the entire road a one way.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he believes the County did look into all options for the roadway. He further stated that he will reach out to them and recommend it.

Mayor Kehm requested that the Township Engineer reach out to the County regarding cleaning up the area where the curve is as well.

Committeeman Ray Gormley stated the problem is the roads are old and when the roads were created, the County did not take into effect the amount of traffic that Little Egg Township now has.

Molly Denesco of South Miami Drive asked what the duties are of the elected officials and their resumes.

Mayor Kehm stated Ocean County Clerk's Office will have information on their website.

Rose Mulholland from Spruce Drive spoke about the drainage issue and sink holes around her home from the pipes.

Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated he is trying to get the drainage fixed with an upcoming Capital Ordinance. He stated an estimate was provided by the Township Engineer to replace the pipes and the information was provided to the Township Committee to discuss regarding funding and will hopefully be on an upcoming agenda.

Cynthia Veramo at Newport Way has concerns with the speeding on Great Bay Blvd and the Diamondback Terrapins.

Mayor Kehm requested that the Business Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines reach out to Chief Hawkins and have him send a few Class II Officers to patrol the area.

Mr. Art Mooney of Windstar Drive suggested a sign of "no through traffic" on both ends of Center Street.

Dr. John Edmunds of Spruce Drive provided an update on the Center Street project and he stated after hearing everyone from the meeting clearly more police officers are needed throughout the Township to control the speeding issue.

Amanda Mallard of Center Street questioned the bid process for Center Street and what protection does the home owners have for their property foundations.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained the bid process and he will look into the Center Street County bid. He also stated the County will have to take precautions during the reconstruction process for the foundation of the homes in that area during the reconstruction project.

Deputy Mayor Scibetta asked if the County can attend the next meeting and go over the reconstruction of Center Street for residents so they can ask questions regarding the project.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he has not received any information on the bid, but he will look into it.

Motion to Close to Public: Scibetta

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated Earle Asphalt is continuing with the paving on the Mullica's Delaware's and Mohawk's off Twin Lakes Blvd and will continue the restoration next week on the new road. He further stated the sodding of the Soccer and Football fields are underway and fields 2, 3 and 4 will be wrapping up in the next few weeks, weather permitting. He continued stating the bulkhead work that was previously authorized is underway and within the next few weeks the permit will be submitted. He stated the FY2023 NJDOT Municipal Aid applications have been announced and the deadline for those applications are July 1. He stated he spoke with the Township Administrator and the Director of Public Works and they have some good recommendations. Lastly, he stated the recertification of Sustainable Jersey and the first step for the recertification will be submitted next week. He ended with praising the Environmental Commission for all the projects they have done, as well as, the assistance they provide for the recertification.

Mayor Kehm questioned the Infrastructure application that was submitted and if he heard anything.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he has not heard anything on the Infrastructure application but there are a lot of grants that the state will soon be announcing that the Township will be applying for.

Deputy Mayor Scibetta questioned if the Township has heard anything from Atlantic City Electric or the BPU. He stated something legal needs to be sent out to move things forward.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he spoke with the BPU and they have not heard anything from Atlantic City Electric but he will be contacting them to get a status and hopefully set up a meeting regarding the capacity limits for solar projects. He stated he will provide the information to the Township Attorney to draft a legal document to be sent out.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Committeeman Daniel Maxwell thanked the Pilgrim Academy 7th grade class for their yearly service project of cleaning, mulching and planting flowers at the Township and Little Treasures Park and pics are on the Township Facebook page of the event. He stated the organizer of the event thanked the Public Works Department for helping put the project together. Committeeman Maxwell provided an

