

## Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

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 November 8, 2021 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

Ms. Stevens: present Mrs. Crea: present; Mr. Gormley: present;  
Mr. Scibetta: present; Mr. Kehm: present

### PROCLAMATION

*Committeewoman Stevens read a Proclamation designating November 11, 2021 as Veterans Day.*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Township Attorney Melanie Appleby explained that the executive minutes have been reviewed for accuracy and as long as the Committee Members have reviewed the minutes they can vote on them even if they were not in attendance at the meeting.*

- October 14, 2021
- October 14, 2021 Executive Session
- June 10, 2021 Executive Session
- May 13, 2021 Executive Session
- February 11, 2021 Executive Session
- January 14, 2021 Executive Session
- December 10, 2020 Executive Session
- September 10, 2020 Executive Session
- July 9, 2020 Executive Session
- June 11, 2020 Executive Session
- May 14, 2020 Executive Session
- March 12, 2020 Executive Session
- February 13, 2020 Executive Session
- January 9, 2020 Executive Session
- November 14, 2019 Executive Session
- August 8, 2019 Executive Session
- July 17, 2019 Executive Session
- June 13, 2019 Executive Session

- April 25, 2019 Executive Session
- April 11, 2019 Executive Session
- February 14, 2019 Executive Session
- January 10, 2019 Executive Session
- July 2, 2018 Executive Session
- June 14, 2018 Executive Session
- May 24, 2018 Executive Session
- May 10, 2018 Executive Session
- February 8, 2018 Executive Session
- October 12, 2017 Executive Session
- September 14, 2017 Executive Session
- August 10, 2017 Executive Session
- July 13, 2017 Executive Session
- June 8, 2017 Executive Session
- May 25, 2017 Executive Session
- April 13, 2017 Executive Session
- June 9, 2016 Executive Session
- May 26, 2016 Executive Session

Motion to Approve: Stevens          Second: Gormley

Roll Call:      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley, Scibetta, Kehm  
 Ms. Stevens abstained from June 10, 2021, October 14, 2021 Executive Session and  
 October 14, 2021 minutes  
 Mrs. Crea abstained from all minutes in 2016, October 12, 2017 and August 8, 2017  
 Mr. Scibetta abstained from all minutes prior to 2019

**ORDINANCE 2021-22**                      **[First Reading and Introduction]**

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 293 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor Entitled "Solid Waste and Recycling Collection" so as to Amend Article I, Section 293-3 Entitled "Rules and Regulations"

Motion to Introduce: Gormley          Second: Stevens

Roll Call:                      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm

**ORDINANCE 2021-23**                      **[First Reading and Introduction]**

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 323 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" so as to Prohibit Parking of Trailers on Streets

Motion to Introduce: Stevens          Second: Scibetta

Roll Call:                      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm

**ORDINACE 2021-24****[First Reading and Introduction]**

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 15 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, Entitled "Land Use and Development"

Motion to Introduce: Gormley      Second: Scibetta  
Roll Call:                      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm

**ORDINACE 2021-25****[First Reading and Introduction]**

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, An Ordinance Amending and Supplementing Chapter 299 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, Entitled " Streets and Sidewalks"

Motion to Introduce: Scibetta      Second: Gormley  
Roll Call:                      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm

**CONSENT AGENDA**

*A Consent Agenda includes Resolutions 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.*

**RESOLUTION 2021-233**

Authorizing the Amendment of Resolution 2021-211 Appointing Larry Ditzel as Plumbing Subcode Official for the Construction Department

**RESOLUTION 2021-234**

Authorizing the Appointment of Kimberly Conley as Clerk/Cashier for the Township Tax Collector Office

**RESOLUTION 2021-235**

Authorizing an Amendment to the 2021 Budget to Allow for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 [*\$1,136,281.83 from the American Rescue Plan Act*]

**RESOLUTION 2021-236**

Authorizing an Amendment to the 2021 Budget to Allow for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 [*\$35,000.00 from the Community Development Block Grant Program*]

**RESOLUTION 2021-237**

Authorizing an Amendment to the 2021 Budget to Allow for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 [*\$33,491.41 from the Recycling Tonnage Grant*]

**RESOLUTION 2021-238**

Authorizing an Amendment to the 2021 Budget to Allow for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue and Appropriation Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 [*\$5,000.00 from the Sustainable Communities Environmental Stewardship Grant*]

**RESOLUTION 2021-239**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #16-00096

**RESOLUTION 2021-240**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #16-00157

**RESOLUTION 2021-241**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #18-00075

**RESOLUTION 2021-242**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #18-00127

**RESOLUTION 2021-243**

Authorizing Property Tax Refunds for Properties Located at Block 326.204, Lot 1; Block 325.65, Lot 6 and 325.86, lot 23

**RESOLUTION 2021-244**

Establishing an Accelerated Tax Sale Date of December 16, 2021

**RESOLUTION 2021-245**

Authorizing the Removal of a Property Located at Block 191.01, Lot 1 from the December 16, 2021 Tax Sale List

**RESOLUTION 2021-246**

Approving Participation in the Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program Administered by the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety and Acceptance of a Grant Sub-Award of \$32,400.00

**RESOLUTION 2021-247**

Authorizing the Amendment of the Appointing Authority's Plan to the Civil Service Commission for Vacation Carryover of "Use or Lose" Vacation Hours Due to Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

**RESOLUTION 2021-248**

A Resolution Supporting the Ocean County Natural Land Trust Proposal to Acquire Block 263, Lot 8, in the Township of Little Egg Harbor for Open Space Preservation by the County of Ocean

**RESOLUTION 2021-249**

Authorizing an Employment Agreement with Deputy Clerk Susan Farrell

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Consent Agenda Only

Motion to Open to Public: Stevens                      Second: Gormley                      All in favor

*Mr. Art Mooney of Windstar Drive: Asked about Resolution 2021-235 and the payment allocation.*

*CFO Rodney Haines explained the amount received was the first payment and the second payment is expected to be received in the later half 2022.*

*Mayor Kehm stated the allocation of funds has not yet been determined but once determined information will be provided to the public.*

*Ms. Pat Johnson from the Sandpaper: Asked about Resolutions 2021-248 and 249.*

*CFO Rodney Haines gave a brief update on both matters and requested that she reach out to him tomorrow with the exact address and acreage of the property.*

*Mayor Kehm stated Resolution 2021-248 is a letter of support that Ocean County is requesting for the land they preserved last year.*

*Paul from Sunrise Bay: Questioned Resolution 2021-246 and what the funds will be used for.*

*Police Chief Hawkins explained the annual grant is utilized for police officers' salaries.*

Motion to Close to Public: Gormley                      Second: Stevens

Roll Call:                      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm

### **BILL RESOLUTION**

2021-250                      A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$3,435,214.46

Motion to Approve: Stevens                      Second: Scibetta

Roll Call:                      All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm  
Mrs. Crea abstained on 21-11030

### **MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS**

Bingo Application for American Legion Post 493 Mystic Island for every Tuesday beginning January 4, 2022 through June 28, 2022

Motion to Approve: Scibetta                      Second: Crea                      All in favor

### **TOWNSHIP ENGINEER**

*Jason Worth gave updates on two projects that Earle Asphalt is currently working on, the first being the Mystic Island Drainage Improvements Phase 2. Earle is complete with most of the in-roadway drainage work and currently working on concrete curb and driveways. That work will continue through next week and then roadway milling and base paving will proceed. Earle is also working on*

*storm drainage improvements. Seabreeze Drive and Tradewinds Drive. Once finished with that next week, they will begin driveway work and then milling and paving. He additionally stated, the Mystic Island West Phase 1 and Atlantis Maintenance Dredging Project is getting underway. Contracts are signed and bonds posted. The contractor will begin in the Atlantis area with dredging occurring from November 29<sup>th</sup> until January 20<sup>th</sup>, and then moving to Mystic Island where they will work from south to north. There is additional information on the Township website including information on private boat slip dredging. Mr. Worth continued with updates on the recreation Complex, including reconstruction of the 4 soccer fields and football field will be underway soon. The contractor is ordering materials and mobilizing equipment this week. Lastly he stated, the Township authorized a grant application to be submitted to the NJDOT for their Municipal Aid program for Stage Road several months ago. He was happy to announce that the Township will be receiving \$405,000.00 in funding for that roadway.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Any Topic

Motion to Open to Public: Gormley                      Second: Stevens                      All in favor

*Ms. Pat Johnson from the Sandpaper: Questioned Susan Farrell's employment agreement and if the Township will be holding a Veterans Day event.*

*CFO Rodney Haines provided a brief description of the employment contract in question.*

*Councilwoman Crea stated the American Legion will be holding a service on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at the Veteran's Park.*

*Mr. Art Mooney of Windstar Drive: Asked for an update on the bus shelter and the food pantry relocating.*

*CFO Rodney Haines stated a cost was received from NJ Transit for the replacement which needs to be budgeted and the cost is roughly \$7,000.*

*Police Chief Hawkins stated he will look and see if there is a police report pertaining to the incident.*

*Councilwoman Crea stated at Sunday's Mass Father John briefly spoke about the relocating of the Little Egg Harbor food pantry to St. Theresa's Faith Formation Center.*

*CFO Rodney Haines stated he has no formal information on the relocation at the moment.*

*Mayor Kehm stated he will reach out to Father John and get further information.*

*Mr. John Edmunds of Spruce Drive: Asked if the Resolutions, Ordinances, Bill Lists and Minutes listed on the agenda could be provided prior to the meeting.*

*Mayor Kehm stated the Ordinances, Resolutions and Bill Lists will be on the Township website after approval from tonight's meeting. He further stated that if there are additional questions residents can email the Mayor or Administrator to ask those questions.*

*Mr. Art Mooney of Windstar Drive: Requested that the Ordinances be pre-printed prior to the meeting.*

*Councilwoman Stevens asked the Township Attorney if a draft copy could be provided prior to the meeting.*

*Township Attorney Appleby stated she would not recommend that. She stated that after introduction the public will have access to the Ordinance prior to the adoption of the Ordinance.*

*Paul from Sunrise Bay: Expressed his thoughts on how government officials can better utilize there positions as leaders through honesty, self-awareness, showing or expressing respect of others, active listening and walking the talk.*

*Ms. Kate Goode of Spooner Court: Congratulated Councilman Scibetta and Maxwell for their win. She further questioned if the bill list can be provided prior to the meeting.*

*Township Attorney Appleby stated it is not the process of the Township to provide the bill list prior to the meeting.*

*Ms. Kate Goode of Spooner Court: Requested clarification on the Mystic Island and Atlantis Maintenance Dredging project and the amount being charged and the assessment charge.*

*Township Engineer Worth stated the cost is \$93 per cubic yard and the article in the Sandpaper was not correct. He further stated the assessment charge is calculated after the project is complete. He stated the estimates that were put out to the residents of Mystic Island Phase 1 is \$6,500 and Atlantis is \$11,500.*

*Ms. Kate Goode of Spooner Court: Requested to stream the Committee meetings.*

*Mayor Kehm stated they have previously streamed the meeting and the participation was not there.*

*Ms. Kate Goode of Spooner Court: Asked several questions regarding the health insurance and additional perks that are received through the Township.*

*Mayor Kehm stated the Committee Members do receive health insurance but he answered no all other questions asked.*

*Sandy Uber: Questioned the opening of the community center.*

*Mayor Kehm stated there are organizations who are utilizing the center and the tree lighting will be taking place there as well in December. He further stated they will reassess the opening after January due to the COVID pandemic.*

*Paul from Sunrise Bay: Questioned if the police department pays for their health insurance and if all employees have the same health insurance.*

*Mayor Kehm stated all employees have the same health insurance provider which the cost is based off salary.*

*Councilman Gormley stated that the Committee was provided health insurance free of cost but they changed the policy to pay the same percentage as all employees within the town.*

Motion to Close to Public: Gormley                      Second: Scibetta                      All in favor

### **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

*Councilwoman Stevens thanked Mayor Kehm for allowing her to read the Veterans Day proclamation and reiterated the Veterans Day ceremony that will be occurring on November 11<sup>th</sup> at Veterans Park. She also wished everyone a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving.*

*Councilwoman Crea thanked all the veterans and their family members who have provided their service and sacrifice and she provided her deepest appreciation for everything that they have done. She further stated the next Senior Advisory meeting will be on November 29 at the Community Center with guest speakers Chief Hawkins, Superintendent of Schools Melissa McCooley and Ocean Ride Transportation services providing information.*

*Councilman Gormley iterated how important it is to honor the veterans on Thursday. He further stated he was happy to see the dredging project are underway and provided attendees with additional information on the project equipment and mobilization that will be taking place.*

*Deputy Mayor Scibetta provided an update regarding the Environmental Commission and projects that are taking place. He also stated he was looking forward to attending the NJ League of Municipalities Conference event and will provide additional information after the event.*

*Mayor Kehm stated December 11, 6:30-8:30 PM, at the Community Center there will be a tree lighting with Mr. & Mrs. Clause, refreshments, pizza and candy canes for the children. He further wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving with family and friends and he is looking forward to seeing everyone in December.*



**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

2021-251 A Resolution Authorizing the Convening of an Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act the Purpose of this Meeting is to Discuss Personnel Matters – Formal action will not be taken.

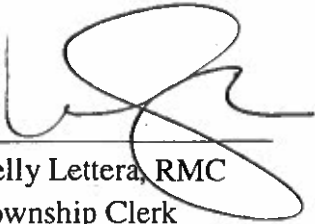
Motion to Approve: Stevens Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes: Stevens; Crea; Gormley; Scibetta; Kehm

Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting

Motion to Adjourn: Stevens Second: Kehm All in Favor

I hereby certify the foregoing Minutes were formally approved by the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee.



Kelly Lettera, RMC  
Township Clerk