

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2021

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

Deputy Township Clerk Susan Farrell 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 August 12, 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 Miss Stevens-present; Mrs. Crea-present; Mr. Gormley-absent;
Mr. Scibetta-present; Mr. Kehm-present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

➤ July 8, 2021 Township Meeting

Motion to Approve: Scibetta

Second: Crea

All in Favor
Miss Stevens abstained

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-15 [SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, adding Chapter 155 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, entitled "Cannabis" so as to prohibit the operation of any class of cannabis businesses within its geographical boundaries

Motion to Open: Crea

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

No Public Participation

Motion to Close: Crea

Second: Stevens

All in Favor

Motion to Adopt: Crea

Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-16 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

A Capital Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, providing for the acquisition of real property, and appropriating \$120,000 therefor, authorized in and by the Township of Little Egg Harbor, in the County of Ocean, New Jersey

Motion to Introduce: Stevens

Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-17 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, authorizing the acquisition of Block 124, Lots 69 and 70 on the tax maps of the Township of Little Egg Harbor in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-3 et seq.

Motion to Introduce: Crea Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-18 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, providing for a supplemental appropriation of \$236,000 for the Mystic Island Drainage Improvements – Phase II project and providing for the issuance of an additional \$236,000 of bonds and notes to finance a portion of the costs thereof

Motion to Introduce: Crea Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-19 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending Chapter 279 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, entitled “Rental Property”

Motion to Introduce: Crea Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-20 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending the reference to certain affected properties set forth in Special Assessment Bond Ordinance No. 2021-09 finally adopted by the Township of Little Egg Harbor on June 10, 2021

Motion to Introduce: Crea Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-21 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending and supplementing Chapter 299 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor entitled “Streets and Sidewalks” so as to add Article V, entitled “Rights of Way”

Motion to Introduce: Crea Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

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.

- 2021-161 Authorizing the interim Township Administrator to negotiate with candidates for Municipal Clerk
- 2021-162 Authorizing the appointment of Chad McDermott as Laborer 1 for the Department of Public Works
- 2021-163 Authorizing the appointment of Bryce Hayek as Laborer 1, Clean Communities (Seasonal) for the Department of Public Works
- 2021-164 Authorizing the appointment of Katherine Baker as Confidential Secretary
- 2021-165 Accepting the resignation of and authorizing the compensation of accumulated time to Brian Kilmurray
- 2021-166 Awarding a contract for FY 2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program - Improvements to Seabreeze Drive and Tradewinds Drive to Earle Asphalt Company (Base Bid and Alternate Bid 'A')
[Two bids were received, Base Bid \$553,413.13, Alternate Bid A \$23,500 for a total of \$576,913.13]
- 2021-167 Rejecting all bids received for Mystic Island West Phase 1 & Atlantis Maintenance Dredging Projects and authorizing the re-advertisement and receipt of bids
[Three bids were received; all bids rejected because the lowest bid substantially exceeds the cost estimates for the project.]
- 2021-168 Authorizing the release of various maintenance guarantees and performance guarantees from past Township Capital Improvement Projects
[For the years 2017 and earlier from past capital improvement projects.]
- 2021-169 Extending the statutory grace period of the third quarter 2021 tax bills
[The extended grace period is August 23, 2021; however, taxes not paid by August 23, 2021 will be charged interest from the original due date of August 1, 2021.]
- 2021-170 Certifying tax liens for costs incurred in accordance with the Property Maintenance Code
[Tax liens are for work performed by the Public Works Department to abate violations for the preservation of the public health, safety and general welfare or to eliminate a fire hazard.]

- 2021-171 Authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel taxes on exempt property
[Township owned detention basin at Skylar Court]
- 2021-172 Authorizing the tax collector to cancel taxes on property qualifying for Veterans' Property Tax Exemption (Block 87, Lot 19)
- 2021-173 Authorizing the tax collector to cancel taxes on property qualifying for Veterans' Property Tax Exemption (Block 124.02, Lot 16)
- 2021-174 Authorizing the tax collector to cancel taxes on property qualifying for Veterans' Property Tax Exemption (Block 325.61, Lot 36)
- 2021-175 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 126, Lot 39.02)
- 2021-176 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 190.08, Lot 1)
- 2021-177 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 285, Lot 19.96)
- 2021-178 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 291.01, Lot 7)
- 2021-179 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 325.14, Lot 1)
- 2021-180 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 325.53, Lot 10)
- 2021-181 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 325.80, Lot 5)
- 2021-182 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 325.82, Lot 5)
- 2021-183 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 325.86, Lot 34)
- 2021-184 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 325.103, Lot 11)
- 2021-185 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 326.07, Lot 20)
- 2021-186 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 326.102, Lot 35)

2021-187 Cancelling taxes and authorizing a refund pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30
(Block 321, Lot 4)

PUBLIC COMMENT – Consent Agenda Only

Motion to Open: Crea Second: Stevens All in Favor
Ms. Pat Johnson of the Sandpaper: Asked for an explanation of all the cancelled taxes. CFO Rodney Haines stated a majority of the refunds are for disabled Veterans which he explained.

Mr. William Yunik, 30 Tradewinds Drive: Questioned Resolution 2021-166, improvements to Seabreeze Drive and Tradewinds Drive.

Township Engineer Jason Worth gave a brief explanation.

Mr. Ed Andrew of Maryland Road: Asked for details on the appointment of Katherine Baker as Confidential Secretary, asked which department Brian Kilmurray is retiring from, and asked for clarification of Resolution #2021-167

Mayor Kehm stated three bids came in high therefore we will be going back out to bid.

Township Engineer Jason Worth gave a brief explanation on the bid process.

Motion to Close: Stevens Second: Crea All in Favor

Motion to Approve: Crea Second: Stevens

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
Absent - Mr. Gormley

BILL RESOLUTION

2021-188 Authorizing the payment of bills in the amount of \$5,833,512.91

Motion to Approve: Stevens Second: Scibetta

Roll Call: All Yes - Miss Stevens, Mrs. Crea*, Mr. Scibetta, Mr. Kehm
*Mrs. Crea abstained on 21-08046, 08047, 08048, 08049, and 08102
Absent - Mr. Gormley

MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

- Amended Raffle Application No. 2021-07A for Ocean County Foundation for Vocational and Technical Education for September 18, 2021 at Cuisine on the Green
- Raffle License No. 2021-14 for the Children's Dyslexia Center Inc. 50/50 Reverse Raffle on December 5, 2021 at the Mystic Island Volunteer Fire Company
- Raffle License No.'s 2021-15, 2021-16 and 2021-17 for West Tuckerton Fire Company's Lottery Hat Raffle, 50/50 raffle and gift auction on October 23, 2021
- Bingo License No. 2021-02 for West Tuckerton Fire Company Designer Bag Bingo on October 23, 2021

Motion to Approve: Crea Second: Scibetta All in Favor

PUBLIC COMMENT – Any Topic

Motion to Open: Crea

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

Diane L., 51 Jared Lane: Asked if there will ever be an ordinance regarding boats parked in residential neighborhoods.

Mayor Kehm explained the town is working on an ordinance with regard to boats however it is still a work in progress.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines stated at this time he is working with Code Enforcement on the matter.

Mr. Anthony Daneski, 115 Danbury Drive: Spoke about the poor condition of the roads in Mystic Shores.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines mentioned he will see what potholes can be filled for now and examine the roads to see what can be done.

Mr. Paul McFarland, Baltimore Drive: Asked for an update on the future dredging project in his area and the cost; if the township has applied for federal funding; and if a trust fund will be established.

Township Engineer Jason Worth briefly explained the dredging process.

Mr. Paul McFarland, Baltimore Drive: Asked about future sidewalks on Oak Lane and Center Street.

Mr. Art Mooney, 2 Windstar Drive: Asked for an update on the Super Storm Sandy loans; also for an update on the police shooting range and the position of Police Chief.

Mayor Kehm stated we do not have an update at this time; however we are working with Congressman Van Drew which he explained.

Mr. Ward Tomasic, 4 S. Baltimore Drive: Asked if the Sandy relief loan will be paid back through taxes and expressed his opinion that it may be a hardship for many residents paying back both the debt and dredging.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines explained we are hoping the Congressman's bill that was introduced a few years ago is passed which would cancel the loans which he discussed.

Resident of Hancock Drive: Asked for details on the grant for work on Tradewinds & Seabreeze Drives. He asked what portion of taxes goes to road repair. He questioned the condition of Madison Drive in particular drainage.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained how the grant application process works.

Mr. Walter Shootine, Springate Court: Expressed his concerns regarding the old dump roadway off of Center Street which is now blocked off to traffic. He asked how the fire department will get there if there is a fire.

Mayor Kehm explained if necessary the fire company will do what they need to get back there.

Ms. Kate Goode, Schooner Court: Asked Committeewoman Crea's abstentions on the bill resolution.

Committeewoman Crea explained she worked for Rumpf Law, took some time away and is now currently working for them again.

Ms. Kate Goode, Schooner Court: Asked since the town is not contributing to dredging does the town own any affected property and what about marinas. She also asked who can use the waterways.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated the projects have already occurred in the township, there was a marina in the last project consisting of four lots and received four assessments.

Ms. Kate Goode, Schooner Court: Expressed her concerns regarding the lack of transparency with agenda items being posted on the website.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked for an explanation on Ordinance 2021-16, providing for the acquisition of real property.

CFO Rodney Haines stated this is an appropriation of funds for the town to purchase property and he gave a brief explanation.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked for an explanation on Ordinance 2021-19, "Rental Property".

CFO Rodney Haines stated this was an amendment to our current code which he explained.

Mr. James King, Lakeside Drive: Mentioned Pinelands Soccer Association is in need of coaches.

Mr. Art Mooney, 2 Windstar Drive: Spoke about the importance of transparency.

Motion to Close: Stevens

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Jason Worth reported on an upcoming Atlantic City Electric project that will take place in Mystic Shores, the street light replacement program, the Mystic Island Drainage Project, the future project at the Recreation Fields and there was a walkability survey of Radio Road done with copies of the study given to the Ocean County Engineer for possible pedestrian improvements

Committeewoman Crea thanked the Township Engineer for his work on the street lighting project.

Committeewoman Stevens asked on behalf of the public why the new poles on Radio Road are an unattractive brown and the ones off of Mathistown Road are silver.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained the brown poles were intended to look more natural.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Stevens: Spoke about the updated recycling program that Ocean County has implemented.

Crea: No comment.

Gormley: Absent

Scibetta: Spoke about Pinelands Soccer Associations registration, the Environmental Commissions Community Wide Clean-up this fall, the Little Egg Harbor Chamber of Commerce Fall Festival and some information about Ocean Mental Health's On Point Program.

Kehm: Spoke about a young Eagle Scouts work making fly traps which have been placed in various locations in town. He also discussed future negotiations with Atlantic City Electric.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

2021-189 Authorizing the convening of an executive session in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act discussion to include personnel matters

Motion to Approve: Crea Second: Scibetta All in Favor

ADJOURN

Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting

Motion: Crea Second: Stevens All in favor

Motion to Adjourn: Stevens Second: Scibetta All in Favor

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

Susan M. Farrell, RMC

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Deputy Township Clerk