

**Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting  
Minutes**

**JANAURY 13, 2022**

**7:00 P.M.**

Mayor John Kehm called the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting to order, lead the Pledge of Allegiance and held a moment of silence.

**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 January 13, 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:**

Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Scibetta, Mayor Kehm

**RESOLUTION 2022-049**

Authorizing the Appointment of Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Member

Motion to Approve: Scibetta

Second: Maxwell

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

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Assemblyman Brian Rumpf administered Committeeman Kenneth Laney, Jr. his Oath of Office.

**PRESENTATION**

West Tuckerton Fire Department Officer Swear-in

Deputy Mayor Scibetta administered the following West Tuckerton Fire Department Officers their Oath of Office: **Firematic:** Chief William Hollingsworth Jr; Asst. Chief Anthony D'Andrea II; Captain Thomas McAndrew Jr; 1st Lieutenant Joseph Hannen; 2nd Lieutenant Buddy Ott; 3rd Lieutenant Leticia Lacerda **Executive:** President Thomas McAndrew; Vice President John Levers; Treasure Anthony D'Andrea; Secretary Jennie Hollingsworth **Auxiliary:** President Brittany Pietsch; Vice President Tara Morey; Treasurer Christina Eichinger **Board of Directors:** Danny Embrich; James Lucas; Robert Shahinian; Dominic Russano Jr, & Calvin Morey

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- December 8, 2021
- December 8, 2021 Closed Session

Motion to Approve: Scibetta

Second: Gormley

All in Favor

Mr. Laney Abstained

Mr. Maxwell Abstained

*Chief James Hawkins provided a promotional introduction and recommendation for Lieutenant Troy Bezak to Captain and Sergeant Thomas Thornton to Lieutenant.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-050**

Appointing Lieutenant Troy Bezak as Provisional Captain of the Little Egg Harbor Township Police Department

Motion to Approve: Gormley                      Second: Scibetta

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

**RESOLUTION 2022-051**

Appointing Sergeant Thomas Thornton as Lieutenant of the Little Egg Harbor Township Police Department

Motion to Approve: Gormley                      Second: Maxwell

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

*Captain Troy Bezak thanked the Committee for his and Thomas Thornton's promotions.*

*Chief James Hawkins congratulated Captain Bezak and Lieutenant Thornton on their promotions and spoke regarding Resolution 2022-054 on the promotion of Cassandra Follmer to Fulltime telecommunicator.*

**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.*

**RESOLUTION 2022-052**

Opposing the Toll Increase on the Garden State Parkway, New Jersey Turnpike and Atlantic City Expressway

**RESOLUTION 2022-053**

Authorizing the Appointment of Lori Kopcha as Clerk 1 for the Township Municipal Court

**RESOLUTION 2022-054**

Authorizing the Appointment of Cassandra Follmer as a Full Time Telecommunicator for the Little Egg Harbor Township Police Department

**RESOLUTION 2022-055**

Authorizing the Review and Approval of Annual Compensation for Little Egg Harbor Township Board of Fire Commissioners, District No. 1

**RESOLUTION 2022-056**

Authorizing the Review and Approval of Annual Compensation for Little Egg Harbor Township Board of Fire Commissioners, District No. 3

**RESOLUTION 2022-057**

Authorizing the Execution of a Schedule "C" Agreement with the County of Ocean for 2022 *[It is the desire of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners to assist local governmental units in the repair and maintenance of its streets and property, road overlay, in addition to providing certain materials and supplies in connection therewith. The township engineer has recommended Oak Leaf Drive, Spruce Drive, Revolutionary Road, Jefferson Lane and Revere Lane to be included in the work undertaken under the Agreement.]*

**RESOLUTION 2022-058**

Authorizing the execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Ocean for the "Move Over" Law Enforcement Program *[The "Move Over" Law Enforcement Program is a traffic safety program run by the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office for the purposes of identifying, educating, and removing reckless drivers from the roadways.]*

**RESOLUTION 2022-059**

Authorizing the Release and Indemnification Agreement for Residential Dredging by JCP Group for Mystic Island West Phase I and Atlantis Maintenance Dredging Project

**RESOLUTION 2022-060**

Authorizing the Execution of Change Order No. 1 to the Contract for the 2020 Drainage Improvement Project with MNC Concrete LLC *[Change Order No. 1, which will result in a net increase of \$25,657.32 (8.90%) in the contract price, to a new adjusted total of \$313,782.00, representing supplemental work and final as-built quantity adjustment]*

**RESOLUTION 2022-061**

Authorizing the Execution of Change Order No. 1 to the Contract for LEHT Recreation Complex Soccer and Football Field Reconstruction to American Athletic Courts *[Change Order No. 1, which will result in a net increase of \$23,710(1.53%) in the contract price, to a new adjusted total of \$1,570,541.90, representing supplemental work and final as-built quantity adjustment]*

**RESOLUTION 2022-062**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #09-00357

**RESOLUTION 2022-063**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #12-00028

**RESOLUTION 2022-064**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #21-00088

**RESOLUTION 2022-065**

Authorizing Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate #21-00269

**RESOLUTION 2022-066**

Cancelling Taxes and Authorizing a Refund Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30

**RESOLUTION 2022-067**

Authorizing Various Tax Refunds

**RESOLUTION 2022-068**

Certifying Tax Liens for Costs Incurred in Accordance with the Property Maintenance Code

**RESOLUTION 2022-069**

Authorizing the Township of Little Egg Harbor to Participate in the Nationwide Settlement Agreements with Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen to Resolve Claims Involving Their Roles in the Country's Opioid Crisis

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Consent Agenda Only

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

*Ms. Pat Johnson from the Sandpaper: Asked about the Fire Commission Resolutions and the two change orders.*

*Interim Business Administrator/CFO, Rodney Haines stated the Fire Commission Resolution is required through New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approval of the Fire District budgets.*

*Township Engineer Jason Worth provided information on the two change orders and the purpose of the change orders.*

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

Motion to Approve: Gormley                      Second: Maxwell

Roll Call:        Yes – Mr. Gormley; Mr. Laney; Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Scibetta, Mayor Kehm

**BILL RESOLUTION**

2022-070        A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$6,195,696.78

Motion to Approve: Scibetta                      Second: Maxwell

Roll Call:        All Yes – Mr. Gormley; Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Scibetta, Mayor Kehm  
Abstain: Mr. Laney

**MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS**

Bingo Application No. 2022-01 for the Baymen Mens Club Inc. on Various Dates in 2022

Motion to Approve: Maxwell                      Second: Scibetta                      All in Favor

**PUBLIC COMMENT – Any Topic**

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

*Mr. Art Mooney of Windstar Drive: Congratulated Mr. Laney and asked about the food bank relocation, the damaged bus shelter and he spoke about Sunrise Bay Community Center shutting down due to the health emergency for one month.*

*Mayor John Kehm stated the food trailer is not being moved, the function of the food bank will be relocated to St. Theresa's. He further stated administration will look into how and if the trailer can be utilized in another way. Mayor Kehm stated he has not heard anything regarding the shutdown of Sun Rise Bay Community Center amenities.*

*Interim Business Administrator/CFO, Rodney Haines stated he was notified that the food bank will be shut down for only a week during the transition to the church property. He further stated if the transition takes longer alternate locations will be provided. Mr. Haines also stated the cost for a new bus shelter will be between \$6,000 and \$10,000 and now that the Township is in a new budget year, they will find space within the budget to replace it.*

*Greg Vershack of Country Club Blvd: Stated St. Theresa's Church has a pop up COVID testing site available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. He expressed his thoughts regarding the lagoon view at Country Club Blvd and Atlantis Blvd and questioned if once the dredging is complete will residents regain the view and privacy they once had.*

*Mayor John Kehm stated upon completion of the dredging, the contractor will be removing the trees to enhance the view.*

*Committeeman Gormley stated once the dredging is complete the area will be restored to how it was originally providing the residents with enhancement improvements and availability for crabbing and fishing.*

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

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS**

*Jason Worth gave updates on the active projects within the Township. He stated the dredging for Atlantis is continuing and they will be working there for the next few weeks then moving over to Mystic Island after that. The drainage projects on the Mohawk's, Mullica's and Delaware's that Earle Asphalt has been working on will start the replacement of drainage pipes on Monday and will continue over the next several weeks and then will be back in the spring for final restoration. He also stated thanks to*

*Committeeman Scibetta and the BPU connection he made at the League Conference, he has a call next week with the USDA regarding the community facilities grant which could a good option for light replacement funding.*

### **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

*Committeeman Maxwell congratulated Kenneth Laney on his appointment. He further congratulated Captain Bezak and Lieutenant Thornton on their promotions. He also congratulated and thanked the Fire Department Volunteers for their countless service hours that they provide to the Township and residents. He further stated the Senior Citizen Advisory Board will be meeting Monday, January 31 at 10am at the LEHT Community Center.*

*Committeeman Gormley spoke on the dredging projects within the Township. He further congratulated Mr. Laney on his appointment.*

*Committeeman Laney thanked his family for their support for allowing him to take on the position. He congratulated Captain Bezak, Lieutenant Thornton for their promotions and the Fire Officers on their swear-in. He further thanked Barbara Jo Crea on her support and for filling her unexpired term due to her appointment as an Ocean County Commissioner.*

*Deputy Mayor Scibetta congratulated Committeeman Laney, West Tuckerton Fire Department for coming out and Captain Bezak and Lieutenant Thornton on their promotions. He stated there are two new Ford Escape electric plug-in hybrid vehicles that residents will see around town which will help with Sustainable Jersey credits. He thanked the Mayor and Committee for putting Resolution 2022-052 on the agenda tonight regarding the toll increases. He also stated there are various sports sign-ups for the spring season taking place and sign-up information is on their websites. He stated that at one of the next few meetings he will be providing information on the next clean-up date and time that the Township will be holding. He stated if Committeewoman Stevens were still here she would have read a proclamation pertaining to Human Trafficking month and he stated for those who can provide tips or need help pertaining to Human Trafficking, they can contact 888-373-7888. Lastly, he congratulated Barbara Jo Crea as an Ocean County Commissioner.*

*Mayor Kehm congratulated Committeeman Maxwell and Laney. Mayor Kehm thanked the Township Engineer Jason Worth for applying for a recreation grant last May which the Township has been notified that they will receive \$75,000 to help with the Community Center.*

*Interim Business Administrator/CFO, Rodney Haines thanked Pat Johnson from the Sandpaper for notifying the Township of the grant received based off information she saw in a press release.*

*Mayor Kehm thanked everyone involved in the process.*

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

2022-071      A Resolution Authorizing the Convening of an Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act

Motion to Approve: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

January 13, 2022 Committee Meeting  
Page 7

Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting: Gormley  
Second: Scibetta  
All in Favor

**RESOLUTION 2022-072**

A Resolution Supporting the Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Proposal to Acquire Block 325, Lots 20, 22.19, 22.32, 22.34, 22.35, 22.38 and 49 in the Township of Little Egg Harbor for Open Space preservation by the County of Ocean

*Interim Business Administrator/CFO, Rodney Haines read by title Resolution 2022-072.*

Motion to Approve: Gormley                      Second: Laney

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

**RESOLUTION 2022-073**

A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of Brian Stieber, Esquire, as Alternate Municipal Prosecutor

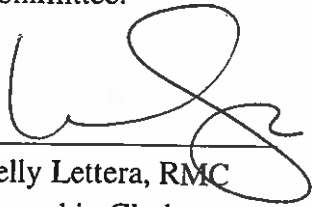
*Township Attorney Melanie Appleby read by title Resolution 2022-073.*

Motion to Approve: Gormley                      Second: Maxwell

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

Motion to Adjourn: Gormley                      Second: Scibetta                      All in Favor

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



Kelly Lettera, RMC  
Township Clerk