

MARCH 11, 2021

MINUTES

7:00 PM

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Kehm experienced audio problems therefore Deputy Mayor Scibetta opened the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Deputy Township Clerk Susan Farrell read the Open Public Meeting Statement and opened the meeting.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY – Virtual public meeting procedure & protocol statement

ROLL CALL: Absent Ms. Stevens Yes Mr. Gormley Yes Mrs. Crea

Yes Mr. Scibetta Yes Mr. Kehm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

➤ February 11, 2021 Township Meeting

Motion to Approve: Gormley

Second: Crea

All in favor

PROCLAMATIONS

Committeewoman Crea read a proclamation designating the day of March 29, 2021 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Deputy Mayor Blaise Scibetta read a proclamation designating the month of March 2021, as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month.

ORDINANCE 2021-05 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, accepting a Deed of Dedication pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:67-1 and-2

[The drainage basin in the project known as Grace Estates has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with prior land use approvals and state statute and acceptance of said drainage basin and the maintenance thereof by the Township is in the public's interest.]

Motion to Introduce: Gormley	Second: Crea	Roll Call:	Stevens	<u>Absent</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>

Mayor Kehm resumed audio and continued with the meeting

ORDINANCE 2021-06 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, providing for the renovation of an improvement to the Township of Little Egg Harbor Sports Complex and appropriating \$2,000,000 therefor and providing for the issuance of \$1,900,000 in bonds or notes of the Township of Little Egg Harbor to finance the same

[The improvements authorized and the purposes for which the bonds or notes are to be issued consist of the renovation of and improvements to the Township Sports Complex, including, but not limited to, various renovations and improvements to soccer and football fields, together with all purposes necessary, incidental or appurtenant thereto.]

Motion to Introduce: Scibetta	Second: Gormley	Roll Call:	Stevens	<u>Absent</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>

ORDINANCE 2021-07 [FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending Chapter 277 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, entitled "Qualified Private Communities"

[This amendment clarifies the standards by which the Township provides certain services under N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.1 as to certain private roads, and to update citations.]

Motion to Introduce: Scibetta	Second: Gormley	Roll Call:	Stevens	<u>Absent</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>

ORDINANCE 2021-02 [SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, providing for the acquisition of various public works equipment for the Township of Little Egg Harbor and appropriating \$750,000 therefor and providing for the issuance of \$712,500 in bonds or notes of the Township of Little Egg Harbor to finance the same [The improvements hereby authorized to be undertaken consist of the acquisition of various public works equipment for the Township, including but not limited to two side-loader garbage trucks, a pickup truck, a field mower and an enclosed utility trailer.]

Motion to Open to Public: Gormley	Second: Scibetta		All in favor
<i>No public participation.</i>			
Motion to Close to Public: Gormley	Second: Crea		All in favor
Motion to Adopt: Gormley	Second: Crea	Roll Call:	Stevens <u>Absent</u>
			Crea <u>Yes</u>
			Gormley <u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta <u>Yes</u>
			Kehm <u>Yes</u>

ORDINANCE 2021-03 [SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending Chapter 37 of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, entitled "Environmental Commission" so as to amend §37-5 entitled "Powers and Duties"

[This ordinance clarifies that the Environmental Commission may coordinate with the Green Team Advisory Committee to support and participate in Sustainable NJ.]

Motion to Open to Public: Scibetta	Second: Gormley		All in favor
<i>No public participation.</i>			
Motion to Close to Public: Gormley	Second: Scibetta		All in favor
Motion to Adopt: Crea	Second: Gormley	Roll Call:	Stevens <u>Absent</u>
			Crea <u>Yes</u>
			Gormley <u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta <u>Yes</u>
			Kehm <u>Yes</u>

ORDINANCE 2021-04 [SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

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 establish regulations for public parking spaces for charging of electric vehicles

[This ordinance amends Chapter 323, "Vehicles and Traffic" so as to create a new Subsection 323-7A, which establishes regulations for parking at electric charging station and a fee for use.]

Motion to Open to Public: Crea	Second: Gormley		All in favor
<i>No public participation.</i>			
Motion to Close to Public: Gormley	Second: Crea		All in favor

Motion to Adopt: Crea	Second: Scibetta	Roll Call:	Stevens	<u>Absent</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>

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.

- 2021-78 Authorizing the execution of an employment agreement with Little Egg Harbor Township Police Chief Richard J. Buzby, Jr.
[Agreement is for a three (3) year term effective as of January 1, 2019 and ending on December 31, 2021.]
- 2021-79 Authorizing a salary increase for the Municipal Clerk
[Mrs. McCracken will receive a 2% base salary increase for calendar years 2020 and 2021.]
- 2021-80 Appointing Keith Weidman as Supervising Mechanic for the Township of Little Egg Harbor Department of Public Works
[Mr. Weidman's employment began on March 8, 2021 and he will be compensated at an hourly rate of \$35 which is in accordance with the Township Salary Ordinance.]
- 2021-81 Setting the rate of pay for on call per diem Telecommunicators and on call per diem Telecommunicator Trainees for the Township of Little Egg Harbor Police Department
[On call per diem Telecommunicator Trainees shall be compensated at a rate of \$17.00 per hour and on call per diem Telecommunicators shall be compensated at a rate of \$18.00 per hour.]
- 2021-82 Establishing fees for the employment of off-duty police officers by private persons or entities
[The hourly rate for police officers performing off-duty police activities for private entities shall be in accordance with the applicable collective bargaining agreement in effect at the time of the performance of the off-duty activities.]
- 2021-83 Designating Rodney Haines as the Appropriate Authority for the Police Department
- 2021-84 Urging the immediate repeal of Senate Bill No. 3454 (P.L. 2021 C.25)
[As a result of this law, our law enforcement officers will be guilty of a crime if they notify parents that an underage child is using or in possession of marijuana]

or alcohol on their first offense. Only if the child is found again using or in possession can a law enforcement officer notify the parents.]

- 2021-85 Authorizing the release of performance guarantees posted for Metro PCS New York LLC for various projects
- 2021-86 Authorizing the release of a performance guarantee posted by Great Bay Condominiums
- 2021-87 Authorizing the release of a maintenance guarantee posted by Forsyth Associates
- 2021-88 Authorizing the release of maintenance guarantees posted for K. Hovnanian at Little Egg Harbor, LLC for Four Seasons at Sea Oaks, Section 1 and Section 2
- 2021-89 Authorizing the release of maintenance guarantees posted for K. Hovnanian at Little Egg Harbor II, LLC for Four Seasons at Sea Oaks, Model Area and Entrance
- 2021-90 Authorizing the curbside collection of solid waste for Harbourtown Villas Association in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.2

PUBLIC COMMENT – Consent Agenda Only

Motion to Open to Public: Gormley Second: Crea All in favor
Ms. Pat Johnson: Asked for details regarding the employment agreement with the Police Chief.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines stated this is a three year contract with a 10.75% increase which he briefly explained.

Ms. Pat Johnson: With regard to Resolution 2021-85, she asked for information on Metro PCS New York.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated this was telecommunication improvements in various areas in town which he explained.

Mr. Art Mooney: Asked if the resolution urging the repeal of Senate Bill No. 3454 (P.L. 2021 C.25) has been revised.

Mayor Kehm believes it will be revised therefor we will keep in on the agenda for now.

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

Motion to Approve: Crea	Second: Gormley	Roll Call:	Stevens	<u>Absent</u>
			Crea	<u>Yes</u>
			Gormley	<u>Yes</u>
			Scibetta	<u>Yes</u>
			Kehm	<u>Yes</u>

Mayor Kehm mentioned he has been speaking daily with Deputy Mayor Scibetta on the matter and they are trying to set up a meeting with Atlantic City Electric which he explained.

Deputy Mayor Scibetta agrees with Mayor Kehm and explained they need to speak with someone higher up in Atlantic City Electric to discuss the tariffs that residents have been paying for at least thirty years which he explained.

Mr. John Edmunds: Spoke about the ongoing issues with traffic on Center Street, drainage issues on Spruce Drive and a portion of Oak Leaf Drive as well as going back to in person township meetings.

Mayor Kehm stated we hope to begin in person meetings next month and asked the township engineer to explain the drainage issues on Spruce Drive.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated Public Works and the MUA have been working on the drainage issues on those streets.

Police Chief Rich Buzby explained the police officers have complied with traffic enforcement in the area of Center Street. He briefly discussed the matter and offered the statistics to Mr. Edmunds.

Ms. Amanda Mauer: Asked if installing stop signs on Center Street was ever considered to slow down the traffic pattern. She also suggested a flashing speed sign.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained Center Street is a county road therefore they would dictate anything there such as signage which he discussed.

Mayor Kehm suggested the Township Engineer follow up with the County on this matter.

Mr. Art Mooney: Spoke about the Master Plan, the grand re-opening of Bank of America, and asked about the utility mark-outs on Radio Road.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines believes it is part of the project being done on Route 9.

Township Engineer Jason Worth mentioned there will be an upgrade to the electrical lines and utility poles in various areas which he explained.

Mr. Art Mooney: Spoke about dog parks and asked if they are a liability to the town.

Committeewoman Crea believes there may be a future plan to put a dog park at Freedom Fields.

Mr. Art Mooney: Asked what the back-up plan is for Great Bay EMS.

Mayor Kehm stated at this time we have Northeast Metro as back-up.

Mr. Art Mooney: Praised the EMS for the great work they do.

Ms. Pat Johnson: Mentioned an act of kindness she witnessed involving Little Egg Harbor Police Officers assisting a woman and child.

Police Chief Rich Buzby thanked Ms. Johnson for her comments and stated our officers go above and beyond for the residents of this community.

Mr. James King: Mentioned he is currently the President of the Pinelands Soccer Association and is pleased to hear the fields will be receiving improvements. He explained the registration numbers are going up and thanked the township for their support.

Ms. Kate Goode: Asked if anything has been done regarding the snow plowing issue in Harbortown Villas. She believes it was discussed in the last executive session.

Mayor Kehm explained it was determined that there would need to be an investigation with the Township Engineer and Superintendent of Public Works to see if it is feasible to

plow that area because Harbortown Townhouse Estates owns the roads and contracts out snow plowing.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated the township does not own the roads and has no right to perform any services on those roads which he explained.

Mr. Art Mooney: Made some suggestions regarding the matter.

Stephanie Rongo: Explained she lives on E. Brig Drive and received her installment bill for the dredging assessment which was over \$500.00. She thought she could do monthly payments and questions the large installment.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines stated the ordinance was set up to allow for an annual installment plan over a ten year period which he explained.

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

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Jason Worth reported on the Ocean County Planning CDBG Grant Steering Committee meeting outcome, a DOT grant received last year for Seabreeze Drive and Tradewinds Drive, the Phase 2 Mystic Islands Drainage Improvements Project, and the 2020 Drainage Improvement Project.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Crea: Thanked all the Veteran's for their service.

Gormley: Gave an update on the Atlantis Dredging votes and an upcoming presentation regarding Radio Road Section 2 dredging.

Scibetta: Spoke in favor of Resolution 2021-84, urging the repeal of Senate Bill No. 3454. He also discussed the outcome of the Environmental Commission meeting he attended, an upcoming meeting with Congressman Jeff Van Drew and a future meeting with Atlantic City Electric. He wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Kehm: Announced he is hoping to start in person meetings in April. He spoke about the future of the community center and senior center and wished everyone a safe and Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Being no further business,
Motion to adjourn: Gormley

Second: Scibetta

All in favor

Respectfully submitted,


Susan M. Farrell, RMC
Deputy Township Clerk