

JUNE 10, 2021

MINUTES

7:30 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

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

ROLL CALL:	<u>Absent</u> Ms. Stevens	<u>Yes</u> Mrs. Crea	<u>Yes</u> Mr. Gormley
	<u>Yes</u> Mr. Scibetta	<u>Yes</u> Mr. Kehm	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

> May 13, 2021 Township Meeting

Motion to Approve: Gormley Second: Crea All in Favor

Ordinance No. 2021-08 **[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]**

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, vacating all of the right, title and interest of the Township in a portion of 6th Avenue, off County Route 539, that traverses Block 251 Lots 1.02 & 3 and Block 254 Lot 5

Township Attorney Melanie Appleby stated a motion is needed to carry the public hearing and second reading vote until necessary documentation is submitted.

Motion to Carry the public hearing and vote to the July 8 Township Meeting: 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 No. 2021-09 **[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]**

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, providing for the mechanical maintenance dredging of various tidal lagoon and inlet areas of Great Bay in the Mystic Island (West Phase I) section of the Township and related expenses so as to provide navigable access to Great Bay from the several lagoons, benefitting properties abutting said lagoons, and appropriating \$8,550,000 therefor, and providing for the issuance of \$8,550,000 in bonds or notes of the Township of Little Egg Harbor to finance the same, and directing the special assessment of the cost thereof

Motion to Open: Crea Second: Scibetta All in Favor

No public participation.

Motion to Close: Gormley Second: Scibetta All in Favor

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

Ordinance No. 2021-10

[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, providing for the mechanical maintenance dredging of various tidal lagoon and inlet areas of Great Bay in the Atlantis section of the Township and related expenses so as to provide navigable access to Great Bay from the several lagoons, benefitting properties abutting said lagoons, and appropriating \$1,525,000 therefor, and providing for the issuance of \$1,525,000 in bonds or notes of the Township of Little Egg Harbor to finance the same, and directing the special assessment of the cost thereof

Motion to Open: Gormley

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

Mr. James MacKenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: He questioned if the most recent reduction in the estimated costs are because the State will be dredging further in and the depth of the dredging has been modified.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained the State DOT Office of Maritime Resources will be dredging a portion of what was in the original proposal and an analysis was made on if we went from 4 ½ foot depth to 3 ½ foot depth how does that reduce the amount of dredge materials and that is what was put out in the most recent question.

Mr. James Mackenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: What is the average low tide depth of the Thoroughfare.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated there is approximately one to two feet at low tide.

Mr. James MacKenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: Expressed his opinion that he is not in favor of the dredging since most boats go out for maybe 3-4 months a year.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained a survey was done and dredging will be done in all areas that have 3 ½ feet or less of water at low tide. Causing an equal effect throughout the entire area.

Mr. James MacKenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: Commented he did not like the wording of the vote/announcement property owners received.

Township Attorney Melanie Appleby explained the tally was done as an assessment to get the feel of the community and is not a legal requirement.

Mr. James MacKenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: Asked for the final vote.

Township Engineer Jason Worth: Explained an analysis was done from the first vote to the second vote. The second vote received 96 respondents with more in favor than not in favor.

Mr. James MacKenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: Asked if the Atlantis dredging and Mystic Island West dredging projects could be combined.

Township Engineer Jason Worth: Explained the projects will be bid at the same time.

Ms. Andrea Dinkowitz, Atlantis Boulevard: Expressed her opinion on the unfairness of the dredging vote, she complained her taxes are going up and she'll have to pay the special assessment plus the interest rate on the loan.

Mr. Dave Fisher, Atlantis Boulevard: Objects to the dredging project and the process used for voting.

Ms. Marilyn Stein, Sea Isle Drive: Mentioned her land developer/builder owns about six lots in her development and asked if he will be responsible for paying on those properties.

Committeeman Ray Gormley explained each lot pays an equal amount.

Mr. Ed Andrew, Osborn Island: Gave a positive commentary on the Osborn Island dredging project.

Ms. Debbie Fisher, Atlantis Boulevard: Believes it is unfair that many people use the water however only the ones that live on the water are paying for the dredging.

Mr. James MacKenzie, Great Bay Boulevard: Big Thoroughfare is a large part of the dredging project and he asked if it is a private or public waterway; he does not feel the residents should have to pay for it.

Committeeman Ray Gormley believes it is owned by the DEP and the channel that leads to the lagoons was man made and is not a mapped-navigable waterway, therefore the State will not pay for it.

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

Ordinance No. 2021-11

[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

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 2021 and to establish a cap bank pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

Motion to Open: Scibetta	Second: Crea	All in Favor	
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No public participation.

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

Ordinance No. 2021-12

[FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending Chapter 90 entitled Personnel Policies and Procedures of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor

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 No. 2021-13 **[FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]**
 An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending and supplementing the Township Code so as to create Chapter 250, entitled "Outdoor Special Events, Private Property"

Motion to Introduce: 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 No. 2021-14 **[FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]**
 An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, amending and supplementing the Municipal Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, so as to amend Chapter 286, entitled "Smoking"

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>

Resolution No. 2021-126
 Authorizing the 2021 Municipal Budget be read by title only
[This resolution is to save time prior to opening of the public hearing by permitting the budget be read by title as opposed to reading every line item.]

Motion to Approve: 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>

PUBLIC HEARING 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

CFO Rodney Haines gave a brief presentation of the municipal budget.

Motion to Open: Gormley Second: Scibetta All in Favor

Mr. Art Mooney: Asked what the percentage above the 2% cap was and how much of the prior cap was used.

CFO Rodney Haines stated none and briefly explained.

Motion to Close: Gormley Second: Scibetta All in Favor

Resolution No. 2021-127

Resolution adopting the 2021 Municipal Budget

[The budget has total general appropriations of \$24,479,062.03. The amount to be raised by taxation to support the budget will be \$19,378,350.09.]

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines explained we are under State review and the Division of Local Government Services is running behind; therefore adoption of the 2021 municipal budget cannot happen this evening and asked for it to be carried.

Motion to Carry: Gormley	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.

- 2021-128 Accepting the retirement of and authorizing the compensation of accumulated time to Richard Buzby
- 2021-129 Accepting the retirement of and authorizing the compensation of accumulated time to Diana McCracken
- 2021-130 Accepting the retirement of and authorizing the compensation of accumulated time to Carolyn Crowley
- 2021-131 Accepting the retirement of and authorizing the compensation of accumulated time to Carol Evans
- 2021-132 Authorizing the transfer of Susan Munson from the Construction Office to the Department of Public Works
- 2021-133 Authorizing the Township Administrator to interview and hire personnel for the Department of Public Works and the Construction Office
[Positions include a full-time Laborer, up to four full-time temporary Laborers, a per diem Plumbing Inspector and a Clerk 1]
- 2021-134 Authorizing the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption and Plenary Retail Distribution Licenses for the 2021-2022 licensing year
- 2021-135 Authorizing the renewal of Club Licenses for the 2021-2022 licensing year
- 2021-136 Awarding a contract for two (2) 2021 or newer Mack LR (or equal) side loader with dual sit down cab to Bergey's Trucks, Inc. D/B/A Bergey's Truck Centers
[One (1) bid was received in the amount of \$623,254.00]
- 2021-137 Authorizing the filing of an application for the NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program FY 2022 for Improvements to Stage Road
[The application is for State Aid in the amount of \$891,894.00 for improvements to Stage Road.]

BILL RESOLUTION

2021-142 Authorizing the payment of bills in the amount of \$3,752,011.73

Motion to Approve: Crea	Second: Scibetta	Roll Call: Stevens	<u>Absent</u>
		Crea	abstained on
		06041,06042,06047,	
		06048, 06066,	yes to
			balance
			<hr/>
		Gormley	<u>Yes</u>
		Scibetta	<u>Yes</u>
		Kehm	<u>Yes</u>

MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

- ❖ American Legion Post 493 Mystic Island 50/50 raffle on October 10, 2021
- ❖ Ocean County Foundation for Vocational and Technical Education 50/50 raffle on October 7, 2021
- ❖ Women's Club by the Bay 50/50 raffle on August 21 & 22, 2021
- ❖ Women's Club by the Bay gift auction on September 18 & 19, 2021

Motion to Approve: Crea Second: Scibetta All in Favor

PUBLIC COMMENT – Any Topic

Motion to Open: Crea Second: Gormley All in Favor

Ms. Andrea Dinkowitz, Atlantis Boulevard: Expressed her concerns with traffic and speeding on her street and throughout the township.

Ms. Candy, Center Street: Spoke about issues on Center Street including trucks over 4 tons and drivers not following the speed limit.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated the County is taking over the Tuckerton portion of the road to limit movements from Route 9 down Center Street towards Oak Lane; the County is in need of State approval to commence work.

Mr. Dave Fisher, Atlantis Boulevard: Stated there is still flooding issues after the pipe work on Pinehurst Drive.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained sediment bags were placed inside the basins to prevent dirt from getting inside during construction. Public Works removed the bags the other day.

Mr. Art Mooney, Windstar Drive: Discussed traffic issues on Radio Road, his concerns regarding the legalization of Marijuana, and the four million dollar FEMA disaster money.

CFO Rodney Haines mentioned the 4 million dollars is the community disaster loan we are working on getting forgiven. With regard to the 2.1 million dollars of the American Recovery Act run by the State, they are working on the guidelines as to how the money can be used which he explained.

Ms. Gail Kelly, Country Club Boulevard: Spoke about property maintenance issues on County Club Boulevard.

Mayor Kehm stated he will have Code Enforcement look into the matter.

Mr. Paul Lafferty, South Commodore Drive: Asked if Big Creek will be dredged.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained certain portions of Big Creek will be dredged but not all of it.

Mr. Paul Lafferty, South Commodore Drive: Asked for relief from boats speeding in the lagoons.

Ms. Elaine, Center Street: Commented there are no safe areas to walk on Center Street.

Ms. Rose Maholland, Spruce Drive: Spoke about drivers speeding down the road as well as large trucks shaking the houses when they go by.

Mayor Kehm suggested she reach out to the State Police since they handle the DOT.

Mr. Andy Cameolla, North Forecastle Drive: Asked if the township hired a drone to view the lagoon areas.

Mayor Kehm stated yes the town did.

Ms. Amanda Mawry, Center Street: Believes the large trucks are damaging the pipes in her house when they drive by. She also expressed her concerns for the children riding their bikes on Center Street.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated he spoke to the County this week about many of these issues which he discussed.

Tom Zewerski, Center Street: Does not believe the police are monitoring Center Street like they should.

Mr. Frank Minchel, South Longboat Drive: Spoke about boats and jet ski's speeding between the area of Twin Lakes Boulevard and the bridge and asked for more state police/marine police presence.

Mr. Dave Fuller, Louisiana Drive: Read a prepared statement regarding cracks in the roads and asked if the raw materials needed for public works to repair them using the pothole repair patch trailer have been purchased.

Township Administrator Rodney Haines explained he spoke with the Superintendent of Public Works and the trailer doesn't deal with the liquid sealer for that type of work; however we are purchasing a piece of equipment for sealing cracks in the near future.

Mr. John Edmunds, Spruce Drive: Believes our Police Department is stretched thin for the amount of residents in this town.

Mayor Kehm stated we have approximately forty four police officers which are separated between the north and south end of town which he explained.

Motion to Close: Gormley

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Jason Worth reported on the Mystic Island Drainage Improvements Phase II, the Road and Drainage Improvements Project for Tradewinds Drive and Seabreeze Drive, the submission of the local recreation grant for improvements to the community center, and the Mystic Beach and Parkertown Beach improvements which are under review.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Crea: Thanked everyone for coming out to attend tonight's meeting and bringing forward their concerns. Our mission is to provide you with the best quality of life we can which sometimes takes some time. She provided information on the next Senior Citizen Advisory Board meeting which will be at the community center.

Gormley: Mentioned he is very happy with the turnout at the first in-person meeting in quite some time. He spoke about the history of Little Egg Harbor, the growth the town has experienced and how it effects the roads.

Scibetta: Spoke about the Memorial Day Service at Veteran's Park he attended with Committeewomen Crea and Stevens, the Book Smile organization that accepts donated

books for children at Town Hall and some upcoming projects the Environmental Commission is working on.

Kehm: Announced there have been discussions on changing the meeting time for the summer months which will be posted on the township website and wished everyone a happy and safe July 4th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution No. 2021-143

Authorizing the convening of an executive session in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act matters of discussion to include personnel and collective bargaining agreements. Formal action may be taken.

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

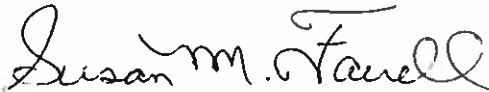
Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting:
 Motion: Scibetta Second: Crea All in favor

2021-144 Authorizing the termination of Ryan DeForge

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

Being no further business,
 Motion to Adjourn: Scibetta. Second: Crea All in favor

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



Susan M. Farrell, RMC
 Deputy Township Clerk