

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2022

Deputy Mayor Blaise Scibetta calls the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting to order and leads the Pledge of Allegiance. Time: 7:30 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 June 9, 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:

Present: Mr. Gormley, Mr. Laney, Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Scibetta
 Absent: Mr. Kehm

PROCLAMATION

Committeeman Laney read the proclamation for Gun Violence Awareness Day (1st Friday in June)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 12, 2022

May 12, 2022 Executive Session

Motion to Approve: Gormley

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

Mr. Gormley noted for the record he was excused from a portion of the May 12, 2022 Executive Session.

ORDINANCE 2022-05

[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 2022 and to establish a cap bank pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14

Motion to Open to Public: Maxwell

Second: Gormley

All in Favor

Mr. Art Mooney, 1 Windstar Drive asked what is the amount of the bank cap.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines explained the law allows us to increase up to 3 ½% of the budget from the previous year's final appropriations so the ordinance is asking for a 1% increase over what we were allowed from the State CBI of \$207,712.45.

Mr. Art Mooney asked the cap bank is normally 2% and now we are exceeding it by an additional 1 ½%.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines explained the 2% cap is the tax cap, this is an appropriations cap. The appropriations cap is banked for a future need.

Mr. Art Mooney asked what the need is for this increase.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines explained this ordinance allows us to bank it and if it is not done you are not allowed to bank anything.

Mr. Art Mooney asked why is it increased to 3 ½%?

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines explained it allows the township to bank that amount for a possible need in the future. This amount is not being raised in taxes and the reason it is done is to

- 2022-145 Authorizing the Renewal of Club Licenses for the 2022-2023 Licensing Year
- 2022-146 Authorizing the Renewal of an Plenary Retail Alcoholic Beverage Consumption License (Inactive) to Sea Oaks Country Club, LLC in Accordance with a State, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control Special Ruling for the 2022-2023 License Term
- 2022-147 Authorizing the Township to Cooperate with the County of Ocean to Conduct a Public Hearing as to the exchange of property held as Open Space and to satisfy the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.5 and N.J.A.C. 7:36-25.5
- 2022-148 Authorizing the execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Ocean for the FY22 Traffic Enforcement Program Grant
- 2022-149 Authorizing the filing of an application for the NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program FY 2023 for Improvements to Oak Lane
- 2022-150 Authorizing the preparation of specifications for upgrading, expanding and repairing of existing security surveillance systems at various township property locations
- 2022-151 Authorizing the preparation of specifications for Skate Park Improvements at the Community Center
- 2022-152 Awarding a contract for a skate park from American Ramp Company under the National Cooperative Sourcewell Contract #112420-ARC
- 2022-153 Authorizing the purchase of Taser Units and Accessories Under State Contract T0106/17-FLEET-00738 (American Rescue Plan Act Funding)
- 2022-154 Authorizing the purchase of a replacement New Jersey Transit bus shelter on Radio Road (American Rescue Plan Act Funding)
- 2022-155 Authorizing Special Projects Engineer, T&M Associates, to perform Survey, Plan and Specification Preparation, Bidding Assistance, Construction Administration, and Inspections relating to 2022 Drainage Improvement Project (American Rescue Plan Act Funding)
- 2022-156 Authorizing the purchase and installation of a Township Phone System Under State Contract A80802, T1316
- 2022-157 Authorizing the release of Maintenance Guarantee posted for Route 539 Business Park to Commercial Enterprises
- 2022-158 Authorizing the release of Performance Guarantee posted for the Road Opening – 109 East Dory Drive by Carvalho Property Management LLC

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated this special ruling is required for Sea Oaks to keep the liquor license active. The process for the transfer of the liquor license can now commence. The new owners have proposed changes to the buildings/operations and if so they will be required to go before the planning board.

Mr. Art Mooney asked about resolutions 153, 154 and 155 funding through the American Rescue Plan do they all fall within the restrictions and what are the amounts?

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated 153 is for \$76,000 for Taser units for the police department, our PD does not have Taser units as a non-lethal force.

Mr. Art Mooney asked how does this fall within the restrictions of the "Plan"

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated a ruling came out that municipalities that received less than \$10 million in American Rescue Funds can use it as needed and public safety is one of the items; Resolution 154 is for a bus shelter in the amount of \$8,965, its been ordered from NJ Transit's preferred vendor and our public works department will assemble it and maintain it; Resolution 155 is for drainage improvements with an estimated cost of \$450,000.

Township Engineer Jason Worth confirmed it falls within the budget assigned and within the guidelines.

Mr. Art Mooney asked what about small business in Little Egg Harbor

Committeeman Ray Gormley stated we are working on ways to help our local businesses.

Deputy Mayor Blaise Scibetta stated based upon the amount of money we have through the American Rescue Plan there is money allocated for small businesses.

Mr. Art Mooney asked if the two million dollars is only the first installment.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated the \$2.2 million is the total allocation with \$1.1 million received last year and he expects to receive \$1.1 million this year.

Mr. Ed Andrews, Maryland Road asked for more information on resolutions 2022-151 & 152.

Township Engineer Jason Worth explained there is green space at the community center and that is where we will put the skate park. We are working under state contract with Schaffer Recreation to look at the asphalt area and American Ramp Company for the equipment.

Mr. Ed Andrews asked how does the township handle liabilities for something like this?

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated the Ocean County JIF has five-pages of guidelines on how the park has to be built and premiums will not go up if it is built under their approved guidelines.

Mr. Phil Curtain, 19 Mayflower Drive asked the cost of maintenance on the skate part?

Deputy Mayor Blaise Scibetta explained maintenance is simple the ramps are coated with paint that will last 5-7 years and can be reapplied by our public works department. The contractor will supply the township with the special paint. There is also a 20-year warranty on the ramps.

Motion to Close to Public: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

Motion to Approve: Maxwell

Second: Laney

Roll Call: All Yes - Mr. Gormley, Mr. Laney, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Scibetta

Absent - Mr. Kehm

BILL RESOLUTION 2022-164

A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$5,430,839.73

Motion to Approve: Maxwell

Second: Gormley

Roll Call: All Yes - Mr. Gormley, Mr. Laney, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Scibetta

Absent - Mr. Kehm

Mr. Laney abstained on items 22-00449, 22-00474 and 22-B06024

MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

➤ Raffle Application No. 2022-20 for the Sunshine Foundation, On Premise Gift Raffle, at American Legion Post 493 Mystic Island, 420 Radio Road on July 10, 2022

Motion to Approve: Maxwell

Second: Gormley

All in Favor

PUBLIC COMMENT - Any Topic

Motion to Open to Public: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

Mr. Anthony Redzicki, 15 Danbury Drive stated he is the Association President for the Board of Trustees for Mystic Shores and asked when will the road work begin in the Mystic Shores Development.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated we are looking at a fall project, Shenandoah & Hancock will be repaved first before the other repairs are done.

Mr. Anthony Redzicki stated last fall he showed township representatives over 20 damaged sites and nothing has been done.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated last fall the township committee asked him to gather estimates for repairs and repaving which he has, he has also spoke with several residents; the DPW has done some repairs on Mohican Lane.

Mr. Anthony Redzicki handed Mr. Haines a petition/letters from 322 residents regarding the road conditions.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated the ordinance introduced tonight is for funding the project, next month will be the public hearing and adoption. Once that is in place and the money is authorized we can go out to bid for the work. Also the public works department has cleared some of the areas of concern.

Mr. Robert Matthews, 125 Mohican Lane mentioned a guy from public works fixed the road next to him and said there is clay and the water that is not going anywhere he suggested rock to help with drainage. He gave an example of an incident with the speed bump in front of his driveway that a guy went over it with a front end loader and the speed bump went down and came right back up.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated public works will continue to be out until the major fix is done.

Erica Napolitano, 14 Hannah Place mentioned she is the acting Chairperson for the Environmental Commission and gave an update on what they have been working on. They are working with the township engineer on their Sustainable Jersey Actions so under Community Partnership and Outreach we are having the 2nd annual township yard sale July 16 & 17 and we are trying to coordinate with folks from Save Barnegat Bay to host a rain barrel workshop. Upcoming projects for Sustainable Jersey include requesting the township to use at least 25% recycled paper. We will continue our efforts on getting the word out on terrapin safety; we have attended many area fairs and events and would like more information on bulk recycling that they can get out to the public. Finally the Environmental Commission fully supports Resolution No. 2022-161.

Dr. John Edmunds, 2 Spruce Drive expressed his thanks for repairing the grate at the end of Spruce & Oakleaf and thanked the committee for Resolution 2022-155. He would like a copy of the drainage plan budget.

Township Administrator/CFO Rodney Haines stated it's a preliminary estimate not a formal plan.

Dr. John Edmunds asked if the zoning on the south side of Route 9 can be changed from General Business to Neighborhood Business.

Motion to Close to Public: Gormley

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS

Safe Routes to School Program – after several attempts the Township was awarded a \$815,000 grant for the area of the junior high school including Nugentown Road, Giffordtown Lane & Stage Road for new sidewalks, curbs, handicap ramps and crosswalks connecting the junior high to Route 9 and surrounding neighborhood.

Center Street – Ocean County installed weight limit signs and they bid and awarded the project. They are waiting for the NJDOT approval to make the section of Center Street in Tuckerton one-way. Residents will be notified prior to the beginning of construction and we will attend the pre-construction meetings.

Mystic Beach and Parkertown Beach – received the Army Corp of Engineers approval for Mystic Beach waiting for their approval for Parkertown Beach. Once received we will go to bid hopefully this summer for fall construction.

Mystic Island Phase 1 Dredging – The contractor has removed approximately 46,000 cy and by the end of this month they should be at about 59,000 or 60,000 yards; there is a total of 110,000 cy to take out there. The contractor will be taking off the months of July and August because they are busy months on the water with recreational boating. They will be back in September which was always the plan and will work September, October, and November and complete Phase 1.

Dredging – Committeeman Ray Gormley commented we were asked to investigate a dredging project Brick is undertaking and asked Mr. Worth to elaborate.

Township Engineer Jason Worth reported they (Brick) have approached dredging pretty much exactly the same way Little Egg Harbor has. They received a town-wide dredging permit and are going through their waterfront section by section to complete dredging. The project we were asked to investigate is the Nejecho Beach area off Mantoloking Road. It is one lagoon with 25 homes, they are dredging 2,200 cy of material from, it's actually 90 percent sand so right away it has reuse ability. They put it out there to the residents for a special assessment and asked them to vote on it; they had 16 yesses out of 25 properties so they moved to bid the project. There estimate was approximately \$100 a cubic yard so \$220,000 for the overall project. If you recall we have been estimating \$90 a cubic yard. The bids actually came in with the cheapest bid at \$298,000 all the way to \$653,000. It's a small quantity of material and it averages about \$135 a cubic yard for that project and they are not disposing of the material. Whereas in our projects we are paying to dispose of the material at a quarry, landfill or somewhere. There they are trucking the material to Windward Beach on the Metedeconk River and placing the sand right on the beach and grading it out. So there is less cost involved and less action than in one of our projects. So in actuality they are paying somewhere in the

neighborhood of \$150-\$155 a cubic yard and it's going to result in an assessment of approximately \$12,000 to those 25 homes but they did vote for it to move forward. Tuckerton Borough just did their project for the Tuckerton Beach area and they have more material and received a better price than what Brick received. Brick is following the same process as Little Egg Harbor they put it out to the residents, they said yes so they bid the project and are moving forward with it even at the increased cost.

Committeeman Ray Gormley commented he thinks what is pretty amazing to note is that Brick's low bidder was \$135 per cubic yard where our low bidder was \$75, that's quite a difference when you're talking about a lot of material. Tuckerton Borough just got about \$72 a cubic yard so that's a really good price and I hope if we are able to go out for this project we are able to get in the area of \$72-\$75 a cubic yard.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated Tuckerton has about 16,000 yards to take out, a significantly smaller project than ours. The low bidder is the contractor that is working in Mystic Islands right now and he is expecting to go from one spot to another locally without a large mobilization cost so that is why it's about \$72 a yard. The next bidder was at \$91 and the third bidder was at \$96. So in line with what we had been thinking but the fact that they are here, they have all their equipment here, the opportunity is here for a very competitive price.

Committeeman Ray Gormley stated he thinks they have a very close proximity to dispose of the material, obviously with fuel costs and everything associated they have a very close place to dispose of the material which is a very big factor.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated they did mention that several times.

Committeeman Ray Gormley also mentioned we want to try and help our marinas and figure out ways to get them help because they are also shoaling in pretty badly.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Mr. Maxwell – On May 21, 2022 the Mystic Island Fire Company celebrated their 50th Anniversary serving Little Egg Harbor. He joined the VFW and the American Legion for their Memorial Day Services and happily reported we are in the preliminary planning stage for the 2023 Memorial Day Parade. The Little Egg Harbor Board of Health scheduled a free rabies clinic on November 12 at the Community Center. The next Senior Citizen Advisory Board meeting is Monday, June 27 at the Cranberry Creek Club House, guest speakers include weatherman Joe Martucci and Chief Hawkins.

Mr. Laney – Attended the 10th Grade Driving Safety Program at the high school. Wished all a Happy Father's Day and this year's fireworks will be on Saturday, July 2.

Mr. Gormley – Wished everyone a Happy Father's Day and recalled how times have changed our fire companies now receive over 1000 calls a year and there is a need for volunteers.

