

Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 13, 2022

7:00 P.M.

Mayor John Kehm called the Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Time: 7:00 p.m.

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 October 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 the meeting."*

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Gormley, Mr. Lancy, Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Scibetta; Mayor Kehm

PRESENTATIONS:

- National Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Mayor John Kehm read the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month proclamation.
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Committeeman Kenneth Laney read the Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation.
- National Friends of Library Week (October 16-22, 2022)
Committeeman Kenneth Laney read the National Friends of Library Week proclamation and presented it to Paula Sullivan, President of the Friends.
- "The Defense of Little Egg Harbor"
Committeeman Daniel Maxwell read The Defense of Little Egg Harbor proclamation and presented it to Michael Czurlanis.
- Tuckerton Historical Society 50th Anniversary
Committeeman Daniel Maxwell read the Tuckerton Historical Society 50th Anniversary proclamation and presented it to Katie Cortese.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 8, 2022
- September 8, 2022 Executive Session
- October 4, 2022 Special Meeting

Motion to Approve: Maxwell

Second: Scibetta

All in Favor

Committeeman Gormley abstained from September 8, 2022 and September 8, 2022 Executive Session minutes.

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ORDINANCE 2022-06

[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 212, Land Development, of the Township Code of the Township of Little Egg Harbor so as to create Chapter 215, Land Use and Development

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

No comment from the public.

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

Motion to Adopt: Scibetta Second: Gormley

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

ORDINANCE 2022-10

[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, Street Vacations

Alternate Township Attorney Jean Cipriani stated the Ordinance was previously introduced but there were several changes within the Ordinance so the Mayor and Committee need to re-introduce the ordinance under the amended title.

Motion to Amend Ordinance 2022-10 to read Chapter 151, Bulkhead Construction: Gormley
Second: Maxwell

Motion to Adopt: Gormley Second: Laney

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

ORDINANCE 2022-11

[SECOND READING AND ADOPTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 156, Certificates of Occupancy

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

No comment from the public.

Motion to Close to Public: Laney Second: Maxwell All in Favor

Motion to Adopt: Maxwell Second: Laney

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

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ORDINANCE 2022-12

[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, Vehicles and Traffic, Article II, Parking, Stopping and Standing, so as to amend § 323-7.1, "Public Parking Spaces for Charging of Electric Vehicles"

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

Mr. Peter Ferwerda of Warren Grove spoke regarding the history of the MLUL.

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

Motion to Adopt: Gormley Second: Laney

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

ORDINANCE 2022-14

[FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION]

An Ordinance of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Amending the Township Code so as to Create Chapter 214, Which Shall be Entitled "Liability Insurance Registry"

Ordinance 2022-14 was removed from the agenda and possibly tabled till a later date. Township Administrator Rodney Haines recommended the removal of the Ordinance in order for him and the Township Attorney to discuss and to do further research on the requirements based off the current code book.

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.

The Municipal Clerk read by title all the Resolutions on the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION 2022-231

Authorizing the Appointment of Scott Nino as a Special Law Enforcement Class III Police Officer [Scott Nino is currently a SLEO Class II, appointment is for Class III]

RESOLUTION 2022-232

Authorizing the Appointment of Brian Kennedy as a Special Law Enforcement Class III Police Officer

RESOLUTION 2022-233

Accepting the Resignation and Authorizing the Compensation of Accumulated Time for Chad McDermott [Chad McDermott resigned September 20, 2022 from the DPW. A payment in the amount of \$495.34 will be deducted from his final check for used time.]

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RESOLUTION 2022-234

Authorizing the Appointment of Bryce Hayek as Laborer 1 for the Department of Public Works *[Bryce Hayek is currently a Seasonal Clean Communities Laborer 1. This appointment is for full-time Laborer 1 effective October 14, 2022 at a rate of \$17.85/hr]*

RESOLUTION 2022-235-VOIDED

~~Authorizing the Appointment of Larry Ditzel as Part-time Plumbing Subcode Official for the Construction/Zoning Department *[The appointment of Larry Ditzel as Part-time Plumbing Subcode Official]*~~

RESOLUTION 2022-236

Authorizing the Township Administrator to Advertise for a Judge for the Municipal Court of the Township of Little Egg Harbor to Fill an Unexpired Term *[Judge Damian Murray will be retiring December 31, 2022. The Township needs to fill the unexpired term through April 22, 2023.]*

RESOLUTION 2022-237

Authorizing the Township Administrator to Advertise and Hire a Laborer 1 Employee for the Department of Public Works

RESOLUTION 2022-238

Authorizing the Chief of Police to Interview and Make Recommendations Regarding Hiring Two Police Officers

RESOLUTION 2022-239

Accepting the Retirement of and Authorizing the Compensation of Accumulated Time to Troy Bezak *[Troy Bezak will be retired as of November 1, 2022 with a total payout of \$62,005.19 for unused time.]*

RESOLUTION 2022-240

Authorizing and Approving a Person to Person Liquor License Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1516-33-009-005 to LBI National FBS, LLC from Sea Oaks Country Club, LLC

RESOLUTION 2022-241

Authorizing the Tax Collector to Cancel Taxes and Provide a Refund Pursuant to N.J.S.A 54:4-3.30 on Property Qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption (Sean McHale, Block 326.216, Lot 2)

RESOLUTION 2022-242

Authorizing the Tax Collector to Cancel Taxes and Provide a Refund Pursuant to N.J.S.A 54:4-3.30 on Property Qualifying for Veterans Property Tax Exemption (Richard A. Lutz, Jr., Block 262, Lot 2.12)

RESOLUTION 2022-243

Authorizing Various Tax Refunds *[A tax refund for the properties located at Block 325.309, Lot 2; Block 325.98, Lot 51; and Block 326.218, Lot 57]*

CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to Open to Public: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

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Mayor Kehm stated he needs to speak with Chief Hawkins on what is able to be done to control this issue. He also stated he would like the Township Attorney to send a letter to Atlantic City Electric with options to restrict trespassing on the easement.

Chief Hawkins stated the problem is, legally the officers are not able to chase these vehicles in fear of someone fleeing, having an accident then suing the Township. He further stated they are trying to come up with a plan to get things under control in not only this area but several other areas within the Township.

Mr. Bob Patrillo of Newport Way stated the police need to confront these motorists to get things under control. He further stated that unregistered motorcycles are getting gas from the WAWA gas station, which is easy access to the easement.

Committeeman Gormley stated this is not only a problem in Little Egg Harbor but in several other towns as well. He stated several towns put up concrete guardrails to control the traffic. He also stated that the common denominator is the WAWA, which is easy access to get their gas, and why there is more traffic. He stated maybe the Township needs to take additional steps to speak with WAWA to deny the unregistered motorists from filling up their tanks which would then hopefully deter the traffic.

Mr. Robert Sophie of Newport Way also spoke regarding the nuisance of these trespassers not only on his property but also on his family. He stated he receives threats on a regular basis from these young motorists.

Mayor Kehm requested that Mr. Sophie provide his photos to the Chief of Police.

Mr. Peter Ferwerda of Warren Grove spoke regarding his land, water and dredging.

Ms. Mary Dougherty of Osborn Island spoke regarding the foreclosed and abandoned properties within the town and gave examples of how other towns outside Little Egg Harbor have the problem under control. She has made complaints several times regarding the properties located at 1385 & 1389 Radio Road and 10 Maryland Road being an eye sorer. She stated she has brought the properties to the attention of the code enforcement officer, as per the Township Code Book and he claimed his hands were tied and requested the resident reach out to the Committeemen that live on Osborn Island. She further explained that these houses are not providing a good quality of life for the residents that have to look at the slightly scenes on a regular basis.

Mayor Kehm requested that the Township Administrator speak with the code enforcement officer regarding the properties Ms. Dougherty referenced.

Ms. Roberta Rapisardi of Cable Drive updated the Committee with the Township Wide Clean-up that took place last Saturday. She stated six miles of roads were cleaned, on both sides, collecting forty bags of trash, 267 shooter bottles, 175 other alcoholic bottles and one needle. She encouraged residents to participate in the spring event and thanked all the volunteers for all their hard work.

Mayor Kehm thanked the Environmental Commission and all the volunteers that help to keep Little Egg Harbor safe and clean.

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Motion to Close to Public: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS

Township Engineer, Jason Worth, reported that work in the Mystic Shores area is underway and the contractor is currently working on the roadways and the work will hopefully be completed by November 3. He stated he and the Business Administrator met with the contractor for the improvements to the community center and the work will be underway soon. He stated the skate park will be done first since the equipment will be delivered within the next few weeks. He continued by saying that he and the Business Administrator will also be meeting with the vendor regarding the beach replenishment project and work is expected to begin October 24. He finished by updating the Committee with the Ocean Wind grant that has been submitted, stating the final presentation portion of the application will be next week.

Mayor Kehm thanked the Township Engineer and the Business Administrator for all the hard work they do on the grants for the town.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Committeeman Dan Maxwell stated he and Deputy Mayor Scibetta attended the Library's Home Town Hero event and read a couple of books to the children with time for a Q&A section. He stated Little Egg Harbor Historical Society is having an event this Saturday at the Pulaski Monument for all history buffs with loud cannon shots. He continued by recognizing the Chamber of Commerce for the Harvest Festival that will be taking place on Saturday, October 22 from 11am to 5pm at the Township Recreation fields. He thanked the Environmental Commission for all their hard work in the Township Wide Clean-up event. He also thanked and recognized the retirement of Troy Bezak for his years of service to the Township and two Class III officers that were appointed tonight for the schools. He finished with stating the Senior Advisory Board will be held on Monday, October 31 at 10am at the Cranbury Creek Clubhouse.

Committeeman Ray Gormley asked if Troy Bezak could attend the next meeting for the Committee to thank him for his years of service to the Township. He stated several exciting things are happening for the residents within the town such as the replenishment of the beaches and the improvements to the Community Center. He continued with the announcement of the public hearing that will be taking place with Ocean County next week on land swap to hopefully provide additional recreation projects to the residents in the future.

Committeeman Ken Laney stated the painting of the Community Center was is a great edition to the town and is the start of several great things that are coming to that area. He stated this Saturday there will be a fire wise presentation at Sunrise Bay educating residents on how to prevent fires and live a safer life. He finished by thanking the police, ems and volunteers who helped his father with the emergency this past week.

Deputy Mayor Blaise Scibetta thanked staff for being part of the meeting via phone. He thanked all the volunteers in the town especially the Environmental Commission for the Township Wide Clean-up event.

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Mayor John Kehm stated a lot of great things are happening within Little Egg Harbor especially at the community center with pickle ball courts, basketball courts, a skate park and the painting of the community center. He finished by expressing to the residents the importance of checking Halloween candy this year due to the fentanyl problem. He thanked all staff and residents for attending the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 2022-245

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

Alternate Township Attorney Jean Cipriani stated the Committee needs to go into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters and personnel, formal action is anticipated to be taken.

Motion to Approve: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting: Maxwell

Second: Laney

All in Favor

Alternate Township Attorney Jean Cipriani stated the Committee can vote on Resolution 2022-246 through Resolution 2022-252 as a block. The Municipal Clerk read by title Resolution 2022-246 through 2022-252.

Resolution 2022-246 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 90, Lot 44

Resolution 2022-247 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 91, Lot 40

Resolution 2022-248 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 91, Lot 30

Resolution 2022-249 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 86, Lot 98

Resolution 2022-250 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 86, Lot 82

Resolution 2022-251 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 86, Lot 84

Resolution 2022-252 Authorizing the Execution of a Contract for Sale of Real Estate for Block 86, Lot 108

Motion to Approve: Maxwell

Second: Laney

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

Motion to Adjourn: Lancy

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

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



Kelly Lettera, RMC
Township Clerk