

**Little Egg Harbor Township Committee Meeting
Minutes**

FEBRUARY 8, 2024

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Blaise Scibetta 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 February 8, 2024 was duly advertised, posted in the Municipal Complex, and has remained posted as required under the aforesaid statute. I am directed to include a record of this statement in the minutes of the meeting."*

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Laney; Mr. Maxwell; Mayor Scibetta

Absent: Mr. Kehm

PRESENTATIONS:

- American Heart Month, National Wear Red Day (1st Friday in February) and the Kids Heart Challenge

Mayor Scibetta read the proclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 11, 2024

Motion to Approve: Laney

Second: Gormley

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

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.

Mayor Scibetta read by title all the Resolutions on the consent agenda.

RESOLUTIONS

- 2024-061 Supporting the Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Acquisition of Block 325, Lot 22.33 in the Township of Little Egg Harbor
- 2024-062 Authorizing the Chief of Police to Interview and Make Recommendations Regarding Hiring Two Police Officers and One SLEO II

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- 2024-063 Authorizing the Appointment of Michael-Anthony DiMauro as Laborer 1 for the Department of Public Works *[The appointment of Michael-Anthony DiMauro as a Laborer 1, effective February 7, 2024, at a rate of \$19.35/hr]*
- 2024-064 Authorizing the Appointment of Jacob Wilk as Laborer 1 for the Department of Public Works *[The appointment of Jacob Wilk as a Laborer 1, effective February 7, 2024, at a rate of \$19.35/hr]*
- 2024-065 Authorizing an Employment Agreement with Richard Wisniewski as Supervisor of the Department of Public Works *[An employment agreement between Richard Wisniewski and LEHT as Supervisor of Public Works for a term effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024]*
- 2024-066 Authorizing an Employment Agreement with Keith Weidman as Mechanic Supervisor of the Department of Public Works *[An employment agreement between Keith Weidman and LEHT as Mechanic Supervisor of Public Works for a term effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024]*
- 2024-067 Authorizing the Township Administrator to Advertise and Hire up to Four (4) Clean Communities (Seasonal) Employees for the Department of Public Works
- 2024-068 Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement with the County of Ocean for the FY2024 Prosecutors Program aka Fatal Accident Support Team (F.A.S:T) *[The Prosecutor's Program, also known as, the Fatal Accident Support Team (F.A.S:T) aimed at investigating traffic crashes that result in serious injuries and/or fatalities in Ocean County]*
- 2024-069 Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Requesting FY2024 Local Recreation Improvement Grant in the Amount of \$100,000 for Improvements to Little Treasures Park
- 2024-070 Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the State of New Jersey, Department of Transportation. Requesting \$1,026,330.38 Local Transportation Projects Fund 2024 for Pedestrian Safety Improvements to Radio Road
- 2024-071 Authorizing Appropriation Reserve Transfers in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59
- 2024-072 Authorizing the Cancellation of Outstanding Checks
- 2024-073 Awarding a Contract For Two (2) 2023 or Newer Autocar (ACX) or Brand Equivalent Side Loader Trash Truck 31 CY *[Awarding the bid to Hunter Jersey Peterbilt/GranTurk, Inc. for two 2023 or newer Autocar (ACX) or brand equivalent Side Loader Trash Trucks 31 CY for a total amount not to exceed \$799,500]*

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- 2024-074 Awarding a Contract For 2023 Drainage Improvement Project to Mathis Construction Co., Inc. *[Awarding the bid to Mathis Construction for the 2023 Drainage Improvement Project in the amount of \$401,272.95]*
- 2024-075 Rescinding Resolution 2023-217 and Authorizing the Establishment of a Fund to Accept Cash Donations for the Township Community Center
- 2024-076 Accepting the Retirement of and Authorizing the Compensation of Accumulated Time to Alina Bertram *[Alina Bertram will be retired as of February 1, 2024 with a total payout of \$10,706.40 for unused time]*

CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Mr. Andrews of Osborn Island asked for additional details on Resolution 2024-270 and Resolution 2024-274.

Township Engineer, Jason Worth, stated the Pedestrian Safety Improvements include sidewalks, curbs, signage and crosswalks between Oak Lane and Country Club Blvd. He also stated the drainage improvements include S. Ensign, North Spinnaker Dr, Pine Oak Drive, E. Sail, Cobblestone Lane and various other areas throughout the township and also include tide valves at various locations.

Ms. McHugh of Lake Heron Drive asked if Lake Heron is on the drainage improvement list.

Township Engineer Jason Worth stated Lake Heron is not included in Resolution 2024-274. He stated Lake Heron is included in another paving/drainage project which is in the process of being sent to NJDOT for review in the hopes to be awarded at the April meeting.

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

Motion to Approve: Maxwell Second: Gormley

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

BILL RESOLUTION 2024-077

A Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills in the Amount of \$6,626,180.73

Motion to Approve: Gormley Second: Laney

Roll Call: All Yes: Mr. Gormley; Mr. Laney; Mr. Maxwell; Mayor Scibetta
Mr. Laney abstained from 24D-02010 and yes to the balance.

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MISCELLANEOUS APPROVALS

- Raffle Application No. 2024-002 for The Harbor Bay Gaming Club, On-Premise 50/50 Raffles at 102 Newport Way for various dates beginning April 6, 2024 through March 22, 2025
- Raffle Application No. 2024-003 for Pinelands Jr. Wildcats Football Club, Inc., Off-Premise Gift Auction at 1 Sports Complex Drive (Facebook Live) on March 16, 2024
- Raffle Application No. 2024-004 for PTA Eagleswood, On-Premise Gift Auction at 99 Golfview Drive on March 23, 2024
- Raffle Application No. 2024-005 for PTA Eagleswood, On-Premise 50/50 Raffle at 99 Golfview Drive on March 23, 2024
- ~~Raffle Application No. 2024-006 for Pinelands Theater Arts Foundation, On-Premise Gift Auction at 565 Nugentown Road on February 29 and March 1, 2024 -- VOIDED~~

Motion to Approve: Laney

Second: Maxwell

All in Favor

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER COMMENTS

Township Engineer, Jason Worth, reported the road project he just spoke about during public comment will be going out to bid in the next four weeks with a recommendation for award at the April meeting. He stated the pedestrian safety project for Oak Lane is also in the process of being sent to the NJDOT for review. He stated the pedestrian safety project is for sidewalk installation from Route 9 to Radio Road with connectivity to the High School, Junior High School and further expansion. He stated the footings have been poured for the pavilion at the Recreation Complex and the pavilions should be up by next month. He finished with an update from the County regarding the Otis Bog Bridge replacement. He stated the bridge and paving should be complete by mid-March with the bridge opening to be by the end of March.

Committeeman Gormley requested that the Township Engineer add to his list the sink hole on Route 539 on the other side of the bridge.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Any Topic

Ms. McHugh of Lake Heron Drive questioned the status of the dredging bond. She also spoke about the cars and trucks at Calabreeze stating it is an eye sorer to the residents.

Township Administrator/CFO, Rodney Haines, stated he needs to meet with the Tax Assessor to schedule a public hearing for the dredging assessment then a recommendation will be made to the Committee and shortly thereafter billing will go out. He stated the fees for Ms. McHugh's area will not be in excess of \$6,000, but does not include the interest rate. He also stated he will speak with the Code Enforcement Officer tomorrow regarding Calabreeze eye sorer.

Motion to Close Public Comment: Gormley

Second: Laney

All in Favor

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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Committeeman Gormley thanked everyone for coming out and enjoy the nice weather.

Committeeman Laney reported that the Senior Spaghetti lunch/dinner is on February 24 from 1-4pm at the Community Center with limited space. He also reported that the township will be celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday with a Suessabration on March 2 from 10am-12pm at the Community Center. He stated the event will have face painting, guest readers, vendors, games and snacks for kids of all ages. He requested that all residents go out and vote for the Fire District Election budget on February 17 from 2-9pm at their local fire department. He finished with wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and enjoy the Superbowl.

Deputy Mayor Maxwell reported the 20th Annual Senior Expo event will be held on May 1 at the Community Center and those interested in participating reach out to the Recreation Director for details. He also reported that the next Senior Advisory Board meeting will be on February 26 at Sea Oaks Club House.

Mayor Scibetta read a letter received from Frog Pond Elementary School Student Government thanking the Committee and Police Officers for the informational tour of the Police Department and Municipal Building. He stated the first meeting for the Memorial Day Parade was held for 2024 and the town is looking forward to more exciting events to take place including a bike competition and a celebration the weekend prior for locals at the community center. He finished by wishing everyone a happy superbowl and Valentine's Day and looks forward to seeing everyone in March.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 2024-078

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

Township Attorney Melanie Appleby stated the Committee needs to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues, Contractual Matters and attorney-client privilege, formal action maybe be taken.

Motion to Approve: Gormley Second: Laney All in Favor

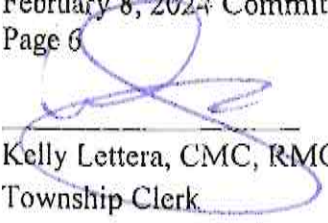
Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Township Meeting: Gormley

Second: Laney All in Favor

Motion to Adjourn: Laney Second: Maxwell All in Favor

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

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Kelly Lettera, CMC, RMC
Township Clerk

**"Any invocation that may be offered before the official start of the Committee meeting is offered by a person who is expressing private thoughts as governed by his or her own conscience, to and for the benefit of the Committee. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Committee and do not necessarily represent the religious beliefs or views of the Committee in part or as a whole. No member of the community is required to attend or participate in the invocation and such decision will have no impact on their right to participate actively in the business of the Committee."*